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Southeast Asia Report



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INDONESIA

MORE ON PRESIDENT SUHARTO AS POLITICAL PARTY 'ADVISER'

Secretary Murdania's Comments

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 24 Nov 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] As mandatory of the MPR [People's Consultative Congress], President Suharto is responsible for developing political parties and the functional group [GOLKAR] as stated in UU [law] No 3/1975 concerning political parties and GOLKAR. However, as a private citizen, he is politically aligned with Golkar.

"Because Pak Harto is chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board and a member of GOLKAR, it would not be possible for him to be a member of another party or develop other sociopolitical groups. If Pak Harto were to accept, it would not set an example for good leadership."

This was told to the press by undersecretary of the cabinet, Drs Murdiono, last Wednesday after his meeting with President Suharto at the Bina Graha [presidential palace] to ascertain the president's feelings about the suggestion of one sociopolitical group that retired General Suharto become its leader as well.

"But if that sociopolitical group were to ask Pak Marto's advice as a private citizen, Pak Harto would certainly be willing to give it." But that advice, Murdiono said, would not be binding as it is with GOLKAR. [President Suharto's] position as chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board is not just symbolic; he is in full charge.

The sociopolitical group that suggested retired General Suharto become its leader was the PPP [Unified Development Party]. Several regional heads of the PPP suggested that a decision be made at the PPP conference (the time and place of which have not yet been decided) to ask if Suharto would be willing to serve as development chairman of the PPP. This suggestion, according to the chairman of the DPP [Central Executive Council] of PPP, Dr J. Naro, SH [Doctor of Jurisprudence] is supported by the party's younger generation.

"This suggestion is considered appropriate; as Pak Harto is willing to serve as development chairman of GOLKAR, it is hoped he will also be willing to

serve as development chairman of PARPOL [political parties]. This suggestion is in line with the principle of oneness of Pancasila," said Dr A. Muis, another member of the MPR/DPR [Parliament].

As President/Mandatory

According to Murdiono, UU No 3/1975 states that the president/mandatory of the MPR is responsible for developing political parties and GOLKAR. In chapter VI article 13 and in 14 other places, the president/mandatory of the MPR can freeze the central leadership of PARPOL and GOLKAR if certain things mentioned in the law are not done.

Among other things, political parties and GOLKAR are required to include the principle of Pancasila and the UUD '45 [national constitution] in their statutes (Chapter II, Article 4). Political parties and GOLKAR are required to practice and defend Pancasila and the UUD '45 (Chapter III, Article 7a). Political parties and GOLKAR are forbidden to spread, encourage, and follow the teachings of communism, Marxism, and Leninism. It is forbidden to accept aid from foreign parties whose interests are in opposition to national interests (Chapter VI, Article 12).

"So that political parties and GOLKAR can carry out their duties as specified in UU as well as possible, the president is required to develop political parties and GOLKAR. In this way, the central leadership of PARPOL and GOLKAR would not need to be frozen," said Murdiono.

Chapter VI, article 14(1) UU No 3/1975 states that, with the power accorded to him, the president/mandatory of the MPR can freeze the central organization of political parties or of GOLKAR if they should act in ways conflicting with article 4, article 7a, and article 12 (as explained above).

As A Citizen

But privately, as a citizen, President Suharto is a retired member of PEPABRI [Association of Retired Members of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] who has expressed his political aspirations in GOLKAR. "As a retired general," Murdiono said, "Pak Harto, himself, often reminds us that ABRI [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] fights for the Sapta Marga [Seven Pledges of ABRI members] and is loyal to Pancasila. And it happened that GOLKAR asked Pak Harto to serve as chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board."

"As a citizen, Pak Harto has the same political rights as any other citizen. For that reason, he is willing to serve as chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board. And his position as chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board is not just symbolic."

Murdiono added, at the GOLKAR Munas III [GOLKAR's third national conference], the president was given power, as chairman of the development board, to

temporarily freeze the GOLKAR DPP if the DPP should do anything not in the interest of GOLKAR. Also, the chairman of the GOLKAR Development Board can call a special Munas as further action of the freezing.

When asked if the PPP's wish had been transmitted to President Suharto in written form, Murdiono said, "I don't know. I've only read about it in the newspapers."

MP's Reactions

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 25 Nov 83 pp 1,9

[Text] The statement of cabinet secretary, Drs Murdiono, concerning President Suharto's position in sociopolitical groups was received warmly by members of the DPR [Parliament].

The chairman of the Functional Development Faction [FKP], R. Soekardi, feels that Drs Murdiono's statement expresses the opinion of President Suharto because Murdiono had consulted with the president beforehand. "Even so, if there are still political parties that wish to have Pak Harto serve as their development chairman, that wish is the right of the party."

When asked if [President Suharto's] statement, through Drs Murdiono, came as a relief to GOLKAR, Soekardi, who also serves as a chairman of the GOLKAR DPP, said that, the issue was not one of relief. "For a long time, GOLKAR has been certain that Pak Harto was a member of GOLKAR."

Even so, the leader of the FKP said that Suharto, as president and mandatory of the MPR, never makes distinctions between political parties and GOLKAR. "Drs Murdiono's explanation is clear," he said.

But if that explanation is still not convincing, political parties can meet with the president/mandatory of the MPR face to face. "Pak Harto is a democratic man and will surely meet with them," he said.

According to Soekardi, after hearing Suharto's own opinion and attitude, the political parties must not be disappointed. Disappointment would mean the political parties do not understand the essence of a citizen's political rights. "But I'm sure the political parties understand this," he said.

But Soekardi reminded us that the problem of wanting Suharto to serve as chairman of development for political parties cannot be taken as a desire of the PPP. "This has never been stated formally and remains as only a suggestion from the PPP members."

Political Ethics

A similar opinion was put forth by DPR member, H. Chalid Mawardi, of the Unified Development Faction [FPP]. This parliament member, who serves as chairman of the Ansor Youth Movement, feels that retired General Suharto's attitude is understandable and must be honored. "To this date, Pak Harto has

never been a member of a political party; he is not involved either organizationally or politically, nor does he act as development chairman."

He added that Suharto has been a member and development chairman of GOLKAR, and his appointment was in accordance with current stipulations. For this reason, concerning the method of suggestion that [President Suharto] serve as development chairman of the PPP, Chalid Mawardi feels that the political ethics and norms of the given organization were not taken into consideration.

The suggestion of the president's appointment started with an explanation by DPR member, Dr A. Y. Muis of the FPP. This council member, who also heads the Ka'abah Youth Movement [GPK], that cited the desire of local party leaders who suggested that, at the 1984 party conference, [President Suharto] be appointed as development chairman of the PPP.

Chalid Mawardi said, if a political party wishes to appoint Suharto as development chairman, the method must be straightened out. For example, the correct way to meet with the president and ask for his willingness must be determined. "The method of suggestion used lately by certain groups was not correct and might lead to polemics, attitudes for and against," Chalid Mawardi said.

A similar feeling was put forth by FPP member, Drs Syarifuddin Harahap. He said that his party values and is happy with President Suharto's clear position.

He said that the president's attitude supports and, at the same time, sets up an active system desired by both GOLKAR and the PPP such that the number of members of each group and their identity is clear.

The president's attitude is also a denial of the claim that we seem to be heading toward a one-party system after the principle of oneness of Pancasila has been in affect for all sociopolitical groups in Indonesia.

Even so, the PPP is sure that, although President Suharto has chosen GOLKAR as the vehicle for his political aspirations, but as if to develop national political life, he will always give the same aid to all sociopolitical groups in existence. In the future, the PPP will continue what it has been doing all along, consulting and working together with President Suharto, Syarifuddin Harahap said.

For Better Health

In the meantime, Achmed Subagio from the PDI [Democratic Youth of Indonesia] stated that a distinction must be made between President Suharto as mandatory of the MPR and as a private citizen. As mandatory it is stated in UU [law] No 3 1975 that the president is required to develop political parties and GOLKAR. As a private citizen, the president is free to join, to express his opinion, and choose the vehicle for his political aspirations.

The distinction between President Suharto as mandatory and private citizen is, according to Achmed Subagio, very important for the government apparatus, from the central to the village level, to realize. This will create a healthier atmosphere for political and party life. To this time, being a member of a political party has seemed in opposition to being a part of the government apparatus.

Harjantho's Reaction

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 25 Nov 83 p 12

[Text] Vice chairman of the DPR, Drs Hardjantho Sumodisastro, stated that President Suharto's attitude and opinion concerning turning his political aspirations to GOLKAR must be honored because they are the attitude and opinion of a citizen in accordance with his right to choose an appropriate organization.

While giving information to reporters Thursday afternoon, Hardjantho said that it is everyone's responsibility to honor this attitude and opinion.

He used himself as an example; having left the PNI [Indonesian National Party] for the PDI in order to express his own political aspirations. Whether one agrees or disagrees with this, it must be honored. He said that, in this respect, no connections should be made between [President Suharto's] position as a citizen who was chosen as president/mandatory and his responsibilities as president connected with his oath of office.

General Suharto was chosen as president/mandatory, but not as mandatory of GOLKAR, rather as president of all the Indonesian people as is manifest in the MPR where all views are represented.

"I ask all members of sociopolitical groups, particularly the leaders, not to make interpretations and to seriously make the distinction between Pak Harto's position as citizen and the responsibilities of his office which belong to everyone," Hardjantho said.

Editorial Agrees With Murdani

Surabaya SURBAYA POST in Indonesian 24 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] It would set a poor example if [President Suharto], who serves as development chairman of GOLKAR, accepted an offer to serve on the development boards of other political parties. This was stated yesterday by under-secretary of the cabinet Murdiono.

As the cabinet member stated this formally, it may be assumed that this is the opinion of [President Suharto]. And with this official statement, it is hoped that this matter can be considered closed.

The reason that it would not be setting a good example must be honored; this in itself is an example of good leadership, and a political lesson for

us all. This concerns specifically the personal rights and political responsibility of an official which must be honored when he chooses the arena for his political struggle. It also concerns the incorrectness of a man serving dually, particularly in different political arenas.

The cabinet member's explanation also clarified the president/mandatory of the MPR's position and power. In this position, in accordance with Law No 3 1975, [President Suharto] is functionally required to develop political parties and GOLKAR.

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INDONESIA

NU NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ULAMA ACCEPTS PANCASILA

NU Adopts Pancasila As Organization's Basis

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Dec 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Situbondo, KOMPAS—The NU National Conference of Ulama at the Salafiyah Safi'iyah Pesantren [Muslim religious school] in Sukorejo, Assembagus District, Situbondo Regency [East Java], ended on Wednesday afternoon [21 December]. The NU National Conference decided to accept the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation] as the founding principle of the organization. To support this decision, it issued a declaration consisting of five points, as follows:

First, the Pancasila, as the basis and official philosophy of the Republic of Indonesia, is not a religion. Secondly, the principle recognizing Almighty God as the foundation of the Republic of Indonesia, in accordance with Section 29, Paragraph (1) of the Constitution of 1945, which included other principles as well, reflects an acknowledgement of the oneness of God in accordance with the beliefs of the Islamic religion. Thirdly, as far as the NU is concerned, Islam is the guide and the law, covering all aspects of human relations with God and with mankind. Fourthly, the acceptance and implementation of the Pancasila constitute evidence of the efforts of the Islamic community in Indonesia to carry out the teachings of its religion. Fifthly, as a consequence of the foregoing attitude, the NU has an obligation to make sure that there is a correct understanding of the Pancasila and that proper and responsible sincerity is displayed by all concerned.

The draft of this declaration, which had been prepared by Committee II of the NU National Conference of Ulama, was approved at a plenary session of the conference. The declaration also stated: "The NU, which seeks to apply the principles of Islam, has accepted the Pancasila from the very beginning in the form and meaning contained in the Constitution of 1945, with feelings of responsibility toward and trust in God. Therefore, the NU Jam'iyyah (community) hereby identifies the Pancasila as the basis of its organization. The final plenary session at which the foregoing declaration was adopted was presided over by K. H. Masjkur, deputy chairman II of the NU who, together with K. H. Ali Ma'shum, the general chairman, were responsible for the holding of the National Conference.

Before that, H. A. Chamid Widjaja (the public preacher) [katib aam], who was also chairman of Committee II at the conference, read the decisions reached by that committee, which dealt with four questions. That is, the essential character of

the NU and the position of the ulama within it, the meaning of the NU Declaration of 1926, the consequences of the revision of this declaration, and a number of related recommendations.

Regarding the consequences of the revision of the 1926 declaration, these concerned the organizational area, the relationship between the NU and the Pancasila, the relationship between the NU and political affairs, and the program which is being developed. The consideration of these matters was based on the working paper prepared by H. Achmad Siddiq, an adviser to the Executive Committee of the Advisory Council of the NU.

Draft Introduction

The draft introduction to the NU by-laws was approved by the National Conference and will subsequently be presented to the 27th National Congress of the NU, which will be held in 1984. It provides the following:

Considering that the Islamic religion is an act of mercy toward all mankind and, for that reason, its teachings motivate the actions of its followers in leading useful lives in this world and in the hereafter;

Considering that the community of ulama, following the traditions of the prophet, have been called on to organize their activities in Indonesia in a body called the Nahdatul Ulama [Muslim Scholars], with the objective of applying the teachings of Islam according to the traditions of the prophet through the Muslim community;

Considering that what benefits members of the NU also benefits Indonesian society as a whole, in the efforts it wishes to undertake to realize benefits for Indonesian society, the organization of the NU is based on:

Almighty God; a just and civilized humanity; the unity of Indonesia; the rule of the people, guided by wisdom, in its consultative and representative bodies; and social justice for all of the Indonesian people.

Considering that the principle of belief in God for Muslims means belief in God as the essential belief of Islam, which is convinced that there is no God but God;

Aware that in the life of a community there are always changes and developments and that the NU must deal with the challenges faced by society and participate in a constructive way in resolving national problems in a spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion;

Aware that national goals can only be fully achieved if the entire national potential is used in an optimum way, the NU is convinced that its full involvement in that national effort is an obligation which must be met;

Aware that the development of international relations requires mutual dependence, understanding and peace between nations, the NU is developing an Islamic community which supports national interests. Therefore, the by-laws of the NU have been drafted to achieve the foregoing objectives.

Meaning of the Declaration of 1926

The NU Declaration of 1926 is the basis for the thinking, attitudes, and behavior of NU members in all walks of life and organizational activities, and in all decision making. This foundation can be used in arriving at the essence of the basic objectives involved in the foundation of the NU, that is, as a form of duty exclusively based on the intention of praying together to God.

The redrafting of the NU Declaration of 1926 has no other purpose than to return to the spirit which led to its establishment as an organization in 1926 and on the objectives which it seeks to achieve, while fully aware of all of the changes which have taken place in the society in which the NU carries on its activity.

The statement continues: "This duty will be reflected in its leadership, in its organizational form, in its choice of priorities for its activities, and in the role it plays in the midst of developments involving the life of our society and our life as a nation."

Leadership by the Ulama

The NU Declaration of 1926 involved an important change in the organizational field. The NU Advisory Council [Syuriyah] is a formal institution of the NU which reflects the leadership of the ulama in the organization. In the declaration the powers of the ulama have been redefined as controllers, leaders, and managers of the NU. For that purpose it has been stated that the NU leadership at all levels is derived from the Advisory Council. The leadership of the Advisory Council is selected by the conference of the Advisory Council. The leadership of the Executive Committee [Pelaksana Tansidzyah] is chosen by the conference of the Executive Committee. The Advisory Council shall be asked for its prior approval of the candidate for the post of general chairman who is under consideration.

The general chairman of the Executive Committee shall be dismissed by the board of the Advisory Council if the Advisory Council believes that the person involved has violated the regulations of the organization, without waiting for his term to come to an end. The general chairman of the Executive Committee affected by this action will be given an opportunity to defend himself at the next following conference of the Advisory Council. The board of the Advisory Council has the right to suspend the Executive Committee if it considers that it has violated the provisions of religious law or of the NU as an organization.

This decision shows that action has been taken to restore the role of the ulama, for in the by-laws relations of this kind between the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee are not regulated.

Regarding the relations of the NU with political affairs, this draft is the same as that contained in the working paper prepared by H. Achmad Siddiq, with the exception of the addition of the phrase, "shall be responsible." That is, the NU respects the right of citizens to make full use of their rights in a proper, sincere, and responsible way.

Meanwhile, the concept which provides full freedom to NU members to enter or not to enter any political organization and to channel their political aspirations through the political organization of their choice has been eliminated.

In terms of recommendations the National Conference, among other things, asks the Executive Committee of the NU to set up immediately a team having the task of preparing a book containing the complete text of the draft declaration. This is to make available to the public the basic concept and meaning contained in the NU Declaration of 1926.

Committee II, which considered this declaration, had the most difficult task, and the process of developing a redraft of the declaration was tough to handle. The sub-committee on the declaration was not able to complete its work until about 4:30 am on 21 December.

Work of Committee I

Committee I on religious questions, presided over by K. H. Sahal Mahfudh, successfully completed handling a number of questions involving religious law. The report by this committee was read by H. M. Rodli Sholeh (deputy preacher) [katib tsani]. Among other things, it dealt with the determination by the government of the beginning of Ramadan [Muslim fasting month] or the feast of Idulfitri, on the basis of a mathematical calculation. There is no requirement that this recommendation be followed. For according to the majority of the ulama who are followers of the prophet, the calculation of the date is done by looking at the stars on the rim of the horizon or by the 30-day method.

Regarding the slaughter of cattle in modern abattoirs, involving knocking the cattle unconscious before slaughter by a blow to the head, this practice is forbidden because it involves mistreating the cattle. Regarding adopting the child of another person, this practice was also forbidden and declared illegal. An adopted child cannot have the same rights as a child born to a couple or a child nursed by a wet-nurse.

Regarding the question of hymenectomies [selaput dara], no decision was made because complete information on the matter is not yet available. This question will be referred to the NU National Congress.

Committee III

Committee III on community affairs was presided over by H. Harun al Rasyid. It was the first to complete its work. Its report was read by Dr H. M. Zamroni. The subjects it covered included community affairs such as a non-degree higher education project, to be undertaken in Jakarta; a cooperative project in Purworejo [Central Java]; legal assistance projects in Jember [East Java], Purworejo, Kebumen [Central Java], and North Sumatra; and an information project in Bekasi [West Java].

In addition, a self-supporting transmigration project in Sulawesi involving 20 families was recommended, as were drinking water projects in Lampung Province and in Cirebon [Central Java].

In addition, the National Conference asked that attention be given to the problem of organizing the pilgrimage to Mecca, so that pilgrimage costs [ONH] would not be increased by adding charges which do not relate to public services. A request was made that catering be abolished and that there should be freedom in choosing a given sheikh in Saudi Arabia for sponsorship. It was requested that people be given the freedom to make the pilgrimage outside the official program, as long as they follow the regulations in effect.

The National Conference also asked for supervision and research on food and drink available to the public which contains ingredients prohibited for Muslims. The government was requested to provide protection for the economically disadvantaged.

Statement by the National Conference

The National Conference also asked the Executive Committee of the NU to undertake immediate preparations for the National Congress in accordance with the regulations of the organization and the decisions of the National Conference.

The Executive Committee of the NU was asked to issue instructions prohibiting the practice of simultaneously holding positions in the NU Executive Committee and on the executive boards of political organizations.

In closing the NU National Conference of Ulama in Sukorejo, K. H. Ali Ma'shum, the general chairman, stated that during a situation in which development activity is expanding as at present, there are usually a number of new developments and surprises which arise in connection with various community events. Therefore, an organization needs greater determination, patience, and strength of soul.

K. H. Ali Ma'shum stated: "On the other hand we need to act like mature adults in dealing with the situation in terms of our capacity to sacrifice for the well-being of the organization. It is in these efforts for them--pardon me--for those who are not so well able to read the situation correctly--perhaps I have lost my way in the storm and have lost some self-respect and a sense of individuality. If a disaster should occur, then from that point on, the NU will begin a holy war [jihad]. A number of the decisions made here will be the source of successes in the future."

The closing of the NU National Conference of Ulama at the pesantren was accomplished in a very simple way, with K. H. R. As'ad Sjamsul Arifin presiding.

NU Leaders' Comments

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 23 Dec 83 pp 1, 9

[Excerpt] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Two aspects of the decisions reached at the NU National Conference of Ulama at Situbondo, East Java, should receive particular attention. That is, the acceptance of the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the organization and the decision to maintain the NU connection with the Development Unity Party (PPP). This was the view of H. A. Chalid Mawardi, deputy secretary general of the Executive Committee of the NU, in speaking to reporters

at the Parliament Building on Thursday [22 December] on the decisions made by the NU National Conference of Ulama.

He thinks that the decision to accept the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the NU paralleled the statement by representatives of 22 NU provincial executive committees some time ago. The statement has now been signed by 25 provincial leaders, after leaders from East Nusa Tenggara, Irian Jaya, and Maluku joined the 22 others.

Thus, a consensus has clearly been reached on the question of the basis of the organization. This consensus needs to be developed even further in the direction of reconciliation. Chalid Mawardi said: "It is hoped that this can be done in the near future."

Regarding the statement on the continuation of relations between the NU and the PPP, he considered this positive because it meant that this question would no longer be left in suspense for NU members. Thus, if the time comes later on for the PPP to register its members, this problem can be discussed without difficulty.

Meanwhile, the other decisions made by the NU National Conference, in his view, only amount to recommendations or proposals for the National Congress in 1984. They can be accepted, amended, or rejected, depending on the decision made by the National Congress.

Position of the Advisory Council

Touching on the position of the Advisory Council of the NU, which is becoming increasingly powerful, Chalid Mawardi declared that the system of leadership developed by the NU involves cooperation between the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee. However, there is a joint agreement that the Advisory Council is the highest institution in the NU leadership. The only problem is that it appears that among NU members there are some who want to emphasize this point.

He declared that the supremacy of the Advisory Council lies in its function as the leadership which watches over NU policy implementation. He added: "That is what is going on now."

In his view, if the supremacy of the Advisory Council is further increased, as reflected in the decisions of the NU National Conference in Situbondo, the general chairman of the Executive Committee will be elected by the Executive Council which will previously have requested agreement on the candidate general chairman from the leadership of the Advisory Council. This would require the issuance of a number of regulations to control it.

The regulations would require that the leadership of the Advisory Council would consist of people who are able to free themselves of attitudes of "like" and "dislike" and who also are not people solely concerned with their personal interests. In addition, they should not be people who are inclined to interfere in various questions, acting in the name of the Advisory Council, which do not need to involve the NU organization at all.

For example, a few years ago, when dog racing was held in Jakarta, the leadership of the Advisory Council expressed its support for it. When it was proposed that dog racing be abolished, it turned out that the Advisory Council asked that the cancellation of the dog races be postponed. Chalid Mawardi said: "In this connection problems like that don't need any involvement by the NU Advisory Council.

However, he admitted that the qualifications mentioned above were too demanding, and he felt it was impossible for any member of the NU to meet them. Therefore, Chalid Mawardi hoped that the supreme role of the Advisory Council would not be further expanded. He added: "What has been done up to now has been good enough."

He also recalled that a decision by the NU National Conference regarding expanding the supreme role of the Advisory Council was only a recommendation to the National Congress to be held in 1984. The recommendation might be accepted or it might be rejected. This is because the decision is not binding on the National Congress. However, he said: "It is very possible that it will be rejected by the National Congress. I think the decision made in Situbondo was on too emotional a basis."

National Congress Committee

Regarding the possibility that there may be some people who do not agree with the organizing committee for the National Congress in 1984, Chalid Mawardi declared that no one has the right to attack the present committee. Those who are members of the organizing committee for the 1984 National Congress are not just from the Executive Committee but also from the Advisory Council.

This is all the more the case if it is desired to bring back peace to all members of the NU. Chalid Mawardi hoped for support from all groups concerned and particularly groups from within the NU itself. Chalid Mawardi, who is chairman of the organizing committee for the National Congress in 1984, said: "Clearly, the organizing committee for the National Congress will do everything in its power to bring back a feeling of unity among members of the NU, and I am optimistic about that."

Positive

Meanwhile, H. N. Abduh Paddare, chairman of the Youth Department of the Executive Committee of the NU, told a KOMPAS representative that the decision of the NU National Conference to accept the Pancasila as the only foundation of the organization and the clarification of the role of the NU in connection with the PPP were positive developments. At the same time the desire of those attending the National Conference to expand the position of the Advisory Council in the NU leadership needed to be considered. This is because it was their suggestion. However, in Abduh Paddare's view, neither the Advisory Council nor the Executive Committee should be supreme or dominant over the other. Clearly, the two party institutions have their own powers.

Abduh Paddare said that the present position of the Advisory Council is the right one, and there is no need to change it. He said: "Although the ulama in the NU are much respected, they cannot decide everything, because the problems we face are very complex and are not just religious questions. Therefore, it is very

important to clarify the respective powers of the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee."

Regarding those who are dissatisfied with the composition of the organizing committee for the National Congress in 1984, Abdur Paddare stated that he thought the committee was about right. Clearly, the committee was legally constituted, because it was set up with the agreement of the leadership of the Advisory Council and the leadership of the Executive Committee, and the two leadership groups were chosen at the NU National Congress in Semarang in 1979. In addition, the present committee has been supported by all of the NU provincial leadership which also attended the 1979 National Congress.

He admitted that the organizing committee for the National Congress still faces a shortage of executive personnel. Therefore, there are still openings for any NU member who is interested in filling one of these positions. This has not yet been communicated to those attending the National Conference in Situbondo, because they are probably busy at the National Conference.

Everything Winds Up at the National Congress

Regarding the same problem, H. Nuddin Lubis, the fourth deputy chairman of the preparatory committee for the National Congress, thinks the decisions by the National Conference in Situbondo were correct. Concerning the recommendations or proposals made by the National Conference, certainly, these will be handled by the 27th National Congress of the NU. He said: "It will be the congress, including the ulama attending it, which will make a decision."

According to Nuddin Lubis, everything that happens within the NU eventually winds up at the national congress. If there are efforts by certain elements to interfere in the situation prior to the congress, this will only cause confusion.

Asked whether his reference to "everything" included splits or divisions within the NU family, Nuddin Lubis answered, "Yes. However, properly speaking, these are not splits but rather minor differences of opinion because they do not involve matters of principle."

Filling in Candidate Lists

Information obtained from several NU sources indicates that divisions between members of the Executive Committee of the NU began at the time that lists of names of prospective voters were filled in, and then names of prospective PPP voters were prepared. Several names of leaders on the Executive Committee of the NU were crossed out, with the notation "did not become a member" of the PPP.

It is believed that the PPP leadership was in touch with the leadership of the Executive Committee of the NU, which, it is believed, was unable to support the instructions of the National Conference of Ulama held in Kaliurang, Yogyakarta, which had issued instructions not to change the order of names of candidates from the NU.

Although the foregoing cannot be proved, the next thing that happened was that Dr Idham Chalid issued a written statement of resignation from his position as general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU. However, no more than 2 weeks later Dr Idham Chalid issued a new letter containing a statement withdrawing his previous resignation. The withdrawal of the resignation was accepted by a large proportion of the leadership of the Advisory Council and led to the expression of opinions for and against him within the NU itself.

According to NU sources, these differences of opinion will be resolved at the 27th National Congress of the NU, which will be held in April-May 1984. Both those groups supporting Idham Chalid and those agreeing with the present general chairman are convinced that all of these problems within the NU will be taken care of by the National Congress.

Comments by Chalid Mawardi, Abdul Paddare

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Dec 85 pp 1, 9

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The NU National Conference of Ulama is an occasion for a major doctrinal review in the consideration of religious questions. Therefore, when the NU National Conference decides a non-religious question, this must be ratified by a formal decision-making body, such as the national congress or a general national conference. This was stated by Chalid Mawardi, secretary general of the Executive Committee of the NU, to a KOMPAS representative in Jakarta on Tuesday [20 December].

In his view, although the NU National Conference handles religious questions which come under the Advisory Council, this does not mean that there are only ulama within the existing Advisory Council. On the other hand, not everyone in the Executive Committee of the NU is a technocrat. What must not be forgotten is that in the NU leadership there is a system of cooperation between the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee in connection with various problems. The Advisory Council is the institution which oversees the implementation of policy adopted by the NU.

It happens that the NU National Conference, which is sponsored by the Advisory Council, is not like the GULKAR [Functional Groups political party] National Conference or the National Conference of KOKPRI [Corps of Indonesian Government Employees]. The NU National Conference is only empowered to discuss religious questions.

If there are non-religious questions which are decided, these actions must still be ratified by the National Congress. The decisions by the National Conference can be approved, amended, or rejected by the National Congress. Therefore, it is not correct to say that if the decisions made by the NU National Conference are rejected by the National Congress, this amounts to taking away the powers of the ulama. Chalid Mawardi said that those attending the National Congress are also ulama.

Regarding the question of the moral influence of the National Conference, Chalid Mawardi said that first we must look at the decisions made. He said: "Indeed, within the NU the ulama are very powerful. However, the NU National Conference

at Situbondo was also attended by a number of political figures, and it is probable that those political figures played a role in decisionmaking. This also happened at the NU National Conference at Kaliurang, Yogyakarta."

Seven Changes

Regarding the proposal that the NU National Congress in 1984 change the party by-laws, Chalid Mawardi agrees with this. In his view the part of the by-laws which must be changed is the introduction. He said: "The introduction must reflect the identity of the NU."

Further, Section 1, regarding the name of the organization, must be changed. In this section it is stated that this organization is called the Nahdatul Ulama, or NU for short. In the proposed change it should say that this organization is called the Nahdatul Ulama, or NU for short, which since its establishment has been an Islamic organization aimed at following each of the four schools of Muslim legal thought: that is, Hanafy, Malikiy, Syafi'y, and Hambaly.

Then, in Section 2 there must be an additional phrase containing the statement that the members of this organization are convinced of the correctness of Muslim thought, in accordance with the traditions of the prophet [Ahlus Sunnah wal Jama'ah]. Section 3, regarding the founding principle of the organization, must state that it is founded on the Pancasila. Finally, in Section 4, regarding its objectives, four additional paragraphs must be added which show the objectives of the NU, which are related to national objectives and to the spreading of the Islamic religion in all areas of social life.

Regarding the statement that the NU is not an instrument for practical political activity, Chalid Mawardi said that the meaning of this formulation is not clear. On the one hand it is stated that an NU member cannot be exclusively a member of another political organization, while on the other hand it is stated that the NU cannot break off its relationship with the Development Unity Party [PPP] because there are too many NU members in it and because the NU is one of the signers of the declaration forming the PPP.

Should Be Included

Meanwhile, H. M. Abdur Paddare, chairman of the Youth Department of the NU Executive Committee, stated that the highest institution in the NU is the National Congress. Therefore, decisions by the NU National Conference do not necessarily have to be accepted by the National Congress. The results of the National Conference are more in the character of items to be included in the agenda of the National Congress.

If the National Congress later sets aside decisions by the NU National Conference, this does not mean that the power of the ulama has been taken away. A decision by the National Conference will certainly be accepted by the National Congress, as long as it involves national interests.

Regarding the binding force of decisions by the NU National Conference in a moral sense, Abdur Paddare declared that these decisions will have moral effect if the National Congress approves a decision involving national interests. On the other

hand, it can be said that a decision by the National Congress approving a recommendation by the National Conference is not moral in character if it does not involve national interests. A decision by the NU National Conference can also be accepted by the National Congress, if it leads to unifying the members of the NU and if it can serve as a guide for the entire nation.

Abduh Paddare also agreed with the proposed changes in the NU by-laws. He said that these changes are needed to make the by-laws conform to the full text of the recent decision by the MPR [People's Consultative Assembly]. However, the most important change to emerge is that which involves changing the statement of the founding principle of the NU. In a broader context the changes in the by-laws are needed to take into account changes in our development needs, as long as these changes are not in conflict with the principles of Islam, which are guaranteed by the Pancasila.

Concerning practical political problems which the NU will not interfere with, Abduh Paddare declared that it is important for the NU to take careful note of a number of social and national developments. For that reason the NU cannot separate itself from political and social questions.

Organizing Committee for National Congress Legally Constituted

H. Djamiluddin Tarigan, a member of the Development Unity Faction in Parliament who is also the secretary of the NU National Congress, told reporters at the Parliament Building yesterday [20 December] that the organizing committee for the National Congress, which is chaired by H. M. Chalid Mawardi, has been legally set up, based on a decision by the Executive Committee of the NU. Furthermore, the committee has been supported by 22 of the 26 provincial executive committees of the NU.

He admitted that not all of the provincial executive committees have so far announced their support for the organizing committee. However, the executive committees from Irian Jaya, Maluku, and East Nusa Tenggara stated they could not come to Jakarta because of a lack of funds. As to the reason why the East Java provincial executive committee could not attend the recent meeting of provincial executive committees, Tarigan said: "I just don't know."

Tarigan hopes that the NU National Conference in Situbondo will avoid matters which could sharpen differences of opinion and make reconciliation more difficult. He said: "This is because it is now the duty of every NU member to join in creating the preconditions for harmony, looking toward the National Congress in April 1984."

Questions raised at the National Conference which, in his view, could make reconciliation more difficult might include the formation of a rival organizing committee for the National Congress. If that happens, the problem must be brought before the NU Executive Committee and resolved there. He said: "I am convinced that if the National Conference wants to achieve a reconciliation through the National Congress, the National Conference will not form a rival organizing committee for the National Congress."

J. H. Naro's Comments

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 24 Dec 83 pp 1, 16

[Excerpts] Jakarta, 23 December--Dr H. J. Naro, master of laws, general chairman of the Central Executive Council of the Development Unity Party (PPP), said that he was very pleased with the decisions reached by the NU National Conference of Ulama in East Java recently, which adopted the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the NU.

In a statement made in Jakarta on Friday [23 December] Doctor Naro said: "The decisions made by the NU National Conference of Ulama were really very satisfactory and a source of relief. All of us should welcome them with joy."

He said that all of the mass organizations which are related to the PPP, including the Indonesian Muslim Community [Muslimin Indonesia--MI], the Islamic Union [Serikat Islam--SI], the PERKI [Islamic Educational Association], and the NU, have already approved and accepted the Pancasila as their respective founding principle.

Smoothing the Way

Doctor Naro said that this will smooth the way for the PPP in considering the draft law on social organizations which will be presented later on in Parliament. For if the mass organizations associated with the PPP have accepted the Pancasila as their founding principle, there will no longer be any problems for the PPP in the consideration of the draft law on social organizations.

In this connection, in view of the acceptance of the Pancasila in Indonesian national life, Doctor Naro again underlined the statement by President Soeharto in his speech commemorating the Prophet Mohammed at the Istana Negara in Jakarta a week ago Friday evening [16 December]. President Soeharto said that the acceptance of the Pancasila as the national ideology was in no way intended to reduce the role of religion in the life of the Indonesian nation.

Indeed, the president said, this will provide a stronger and more solid foundation for religion.

The general chairman of the PPP said: "Therefore, it is very appropriate for our chief of state to declare that there is no reason for anyone in Indonesia to regard the Pancasila as a threat to religion. This should be carefully noted in the hearts of all of us."

The problem now is how every Indonesian, without exception, can attach greater reality to the Pancasila and apply it more fully in his daily life and at the same time protect it from every threat or danger which it may face.

Doctor Naro, who is also deputy chairman of the DPA [Supreme Advisory Council], stated that in this connection the Islamic community, which accounts for nearly 90 percent of the Indonesian people, must decide on and play a major role.

Comments by Ali Tamin and Djamaludin Tarigan

Jakarta KOMPAS 29 Dec 83 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The results of the NU National Conference of Ulama in Situbondo (East Java) were far more resolute and profound, compared with the statement of representatives of 22 NU provincial executive committees from throughout Indonesia, which was held recently in Cipete, Jakarta Selatan.

This view was expressed by Ali Tamin, master of laws, of the Indonesian Muslim Community (MI) to reporters at the Parliament Building on Wednesday [26 December] in connection with the completion of the NU National Conference of Ulama, which was held at the Salafiyah Syafi'iyyah Pesantren in Sukorejo (Situbondo Regency).

More Mature

According to Ali Tamin, the firm decisions made by the National Conference of Ulama showed that mature and careful preparations had been made for the meeting. These decisions did not come out of the conference just like that but were preceded by the consideration of several high-quality, carefully-drafted working papers. Ali Tamin, who is a member of Parliament and also deputy secretary of the Development Unity Faction (FPP), considers that the results of the National Conference were good, not merely from the point of view of "the interests of the leaders," but were really based on the wishes of lower-ranking party members and in terms of emerging problems.

The reporters asked: "What do you think of the statement by representatives of the 22 NU provincial executive committees at the home of the general chairman of the NU Executive Committee in Cipete, Jakarta Selatan?" The member of the PPP, who is an MI representative, was not prepared to answer. Ali Tamin said: "I don't know whether that meeting was held or not. I never heard that preparations were being made for it!"

On 8 December representatives of 22 NU provincial executive committees from throughout Indonesia expressed their "unanimous determination" to change the NU by-laws at the 27th NU National Congress, in accordance with all decisions by the MPR, particularly MPR Decision No II/1963 on the main directions of state policy. The representatives of the 22 NU provincial executive committees seemed to have "anticipated" the National Conference of Ulama in accepting the Pancasila as the founding principle of the organization.

Admission

Several comments made by NU leaders indicate their admission that there is a split in the leadership of this community organization, most of whose members are in East Java.

Although there is a difference of opinion, those who stand behind "the position of Dr Idham Chalid" or those who fully agree with what was done by the ulama at Situbondo are convinced that the split will end at the National Congress.

Divisive Element

Concerning the opinion expressed by Ali Tamin above, Djamiludin Tarigan, the secretary of the organizing committee for the 27th NU National Congress, regards it as an attempt to split the NU membership. Although he holds this view, this member of Parliament from Sumatra is convinced that this effort by "an outsider" will not be successful. Tarigan said: "Really, he's just a kid!"

According to Djamiludin Tarigan, the statement by Ali Tamin cannot properly be made by a person who considers himself a leader.

The organizing committee for the National Congress was established by the Executive Committee of the NU, of which, among other people, Dr Idham Chalid was a member. On 6 May 1982 Doctor Chalid issued a statement of resignation from the post of general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU, but later, on 14 May 1982, he withdrew his resignation!

Acceptance Explained

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 30 Dec 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, 30 December--Chalid Mawardi, deputy secretary general of the Executive Committee of the NU, told a SINAR HARAPAN representative in Jakarta on Friday morning [30 December]: "Accepting the Pancasila as a single founding principle does not mean making a small addition to our party program and still less does it mean using the interpretation contained in the Jakarta Charter."

Chalid Mawardi said: "This statement has no connection with the results of the NU National Conference of Ulama in Situbondo, which also accepted the full Pancasila in all of its meaning as a single founding principle."

He added: "Regarding the National Conference of Ulama in Situbondo and the decisions reached there, I have no comment."

Chalid Mawardi, who is also a member of Committee I of Parliament, said that at this time it should be recalled that the Jakarta Charter is like an old story which has been overtaken by events.

He added, emphatically: "No one should dream about bringing back the Jakarta Charter or developing a new Jakarta Charter or an amended version of the Jakarta Charter."

Chalid Mawardi continued: "If there are still some who accept the Pancasila as a minor addition, that proves that they still have doubts about the Pancasila."

Clear Enough

Chalid Mawardi, who is also general chairman of the Ansor Youth Movement of the NU, recalled that an authentic view of the meaning of the Pancasila meant holding firmly to what is contained in the preface to the Constitution of 1945. He added: "The guide for our behavior is contained in MPR Decision No II of 1976 on the P4 program [Pancasila indoctrination program]."

Chalid Mawardi said: "The NU firmly continues to support all of that, and does not consider that any of it is just a small addition." The recent statement by the representatives of the 22 NU provincial executive committees in Jakarta accepted the Pancasila as the single founding principle for reasons which were sufficiently simple, plain, and clear. Chalid Mawardi, who is also chairman of the organizational committee for the NU National Congress and spokesman of the NU, denied the statement by Ali Tamin, a member of the Development Unity faction of Parliament, that the declaration by the 22 NU provincial executive committee representatives had not been adequately prepared.

Ali Tamin, a member of Parliament from PARIHSI (Indonesian Muslim Party), said in a press statement that the preparations made for the NU National Conference of Ulama at Situbondo had been rather complete, that the working papers presented were well-considered, and that the discussions had been quite detailed.

Chalid Mawardi stated that preparations for the meeting of the representatives of the 22 NU provincial executive committees had taken quite a long time. He asked: "We travelled around to the provinces for 3 or 4 months to develop a joint perception of the situation. How can anyone say that all of that meant holding a meeting without proper preparations?" Everything was done in a democratic way, he added. The statement of the representatives of 22 NU provincial executive committees was in accordance with MPR Decision II/1983 on the main directions of state policy, which was adopted in a democratically, in accordance with the wishes of the people, he said.

The SINAR HARAPAN representative asked: "Why didn't you attend the National Conference in Situbondo?"

Chalid Mawardi answered briefly: "Because I wasn't invited."

He was asked: "But wasn't that a meeting of the whole NU family? If you feel you're a member of the NU, shouldn't you have been invited or, if you weren't invited, shouldn't you have attended anyhow?"

He answered: "How could I go, when Idham Chalid wasn't invited."

He was asked whether his attendance depended on Idham Chalid (general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU).

He replied: "Certainly! We represent one way of thinking. However things go, we must show respect for Idham Chalid. Not inviting Idham Chalid was the same thing as trying to overthrow him as an NU leader."

According to Chalid Mawardi, the NU National Congress, which is planned to be held on 26 April 1984, can reconcile the different elements of the NU. The NU leader said: "The idea of reconciliation is in our minds."

Chalid Mawardi, who in 1956, at age 20, was secretary to Fattah Jasin, the minister of social affairs, and who is a graduate of the Perguruan Tinggi Publistik (Publicity Institute), concluded by saying: "We are still open to make peace." Answering a question about obtaining permission for the forthcoming NU National Congress, Chalid Mawardi said: "We are waiting for a green light from the government. We hope that permission will be given."

INDONESIA

REPORTAGE ON RIFT IN NU

NU Ulema Conference to Discuss Pancasila

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 21 Nov 83 p 11

[Text] The Muslim Scholars Party (NU) ulema conference in Situbondo, East Java in December will aim for a collective position regarding the acceptance of the Pancasila as the sole organizational principle of the NU. This position will be conveyed to the forthcoming NU national conference.

H. Fachruazy, deputy chairman of the Jakarta Regional NU Leadership Council, explained this in response to a query in Jakarta on Saturday.

He strongly denied that the national conference would discuss leaving the United Development Party (PPP). "Whichever way the NU organizes will be in accord with the PPP," he noted.

He explained that learned NU ulemas from all over Indonesia would attend the ulema conference, which will study religious questions and adopt the collective position that the Pancasila, by virtue of protecting the unity of the people and the nation, is the only basis for social organization.

"Clearly, the ulema conference will not discuss the question of NU organization. Thus, there is no need to be suspicious of the conference," Fachrurazy stated.

He explained that the problem of organization, in keeping with the statutes and rules of the NU, would be dealt with in a national conference, and this will be a ulema conference, not a national conference.

The ulema conference will also consider social and cultural questions, in addition to religious questions, in connection with the role the NU will play in helping the government achieve success in the fourth 5-Year Plan and beyond.

Fachrurazy, a DPR [Parliament] member, said the ulema conference will not meddle with the management of KH [Honorable Pilgrim (to Mecca)] Idahim Chalid who was chosen general chairman of the NU board until 1984 by a NU national conference in Semarang in 1979.

No Right To Decide

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 23 Nov 83 p 11

[Text] The NU ulema conference scheduled to be held in Situbondo, East Java in December, does not have the right to decide on the Pancasila question.

KH Ali Ma'shum, chairman of the PBNU [Muslim Scholars Party Executive Council], told MERDEKA in Yogyakarta on Monday that the question of fundamental basis was under the jurisdiction of the national conference scheduled for 1984 because it involved the organization's AD/ART [statutes and bylaws].

The national ulema conference, to be held 18-21 December at the Salafiyah Religious Training School in Asembagus, Situbondo, East Java, will formulate concepts such as recommending acceptance of the Pancasila as its fundamental principle. These concepts will be conveyed to the national conference, according to Ali Ma'shum.

He noted that the NU has no problems with the Pancasila because it is stated in the AD/ART of the NU that the basis of the NU struggle is the Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. "The national ulema conference can only discuss the religious interpretation of the Pancasila among ulemas," he added.

He observed that key NU leader Wachid Hasyim regards this matter as very important and has given his interpretation that NU members have an obligation to adhere strongly to the Pancasila.

"To remain faithful to the Plan of 1926, we must formulate a concrete and practical evaluation to use as a point of departure for all NU actions so that they will be of maximum benefit," he explained.

Steadfast return to the Plan is very important in that it forms the primary basis for detailed study at the national ulema conference. The Plan of 1926 places complete trust in the ulemas in this matter to determine the direction of the association. That is because the Plan of 1926 puts the ulemas in a very high position, from which they could possibly dominate the organization, both conceptually and operationally, according to Ali Ma'shum.

Other Matters

KH Ali Ma'shum explained that other matters to be brought up at the ulema conference were religious questions, especially those left unsettled by the ulema conference in Kaliurang.

"Besides that, there is a great possibility that critical religious questions will be studied, such as adoption, hymen [operations], and others, so that the Islamic community will not tear itself apart in confusion over these problems," he said.

Participants in the upcoming ulema conference, in addition to learned ulemas from all over Indonesia, will include ulemas and scientists who,

because of expertise and knowledge in their respective areas, will be invited to give clarifications when needed.

Ali Ma'shum added that the internal NU crisis no longer exists. "That problem has been dealt with, and the general opinion that it was a crisis was because of a lack of understanding of the true question," he stated.

In the NU ulema conference, religious training leadership will be administered by As'ad Syamsul Arifin, with responsibility delegated to Ali Ma'shum and KH Masykur. H. Imron Rosyadi SH [Doctor of Jurisprudence] will chair the Steering Committee, and Drs H. Abdulrahman Wachid will chair the Organizing Committee.

Rosyadi Outlines Conference

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 30 Nov 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] H. Imron Rosyadi, spokesman for the NU executive board, said he was not aware of the 27th National Conference Committee headed by Chalid Mawardi as reported in Jakarta's mass media.

When contacted by telephone on Wednesday morning, Imron, who is also chairman IV on the PBNU, told SINAR HARAPAN the PBNU was not summoned in secret to form the National Conference Committee. Moreover, many advisors were not invited. "Even Pak Maskur, as chairman of the PBNU, was not invited; although everyone acknowledges that he is an important figure," Imron noted.

He emphasized that there is no connection between the national ulema conference scheduled for Situbondo and the National Conference Committee reportedly formed in a secret PBNU plenum. Yet, Imron said, the PBNU did not know about the matter of secrecy. If some said there were representatives from the consultative group [Shura'] and the executive group [Tanfidziyah], that is not true. Both the consultative group and the executive group act in concert, not individually. "Thus, they cannot be represented by others," Imron noted.

The 27th national conference, which will be held in early 1984, will reportedly be discussed in the national ulema conference, which will prepare for the national conference. Thus, the ulema conference will discuss when and where the national conference will be held. Reportedly, the ulema conference will be a forum for the study of questions, and will make recommendations to be considered at the national conference. Thus, the formation of the committee will be in keeping with organizational procedures.

"It will not emerge all of a sudden," said Imron, adding that via the ulema conference, the questions will be thoroughly considered beforehand.

When asked if the National Conference Committee was legal, Imron said only that he was the sole spokesman designated by the PBNU. Thus, those outside the PBNU had no validity.

Meeting the Internal Affairs Minister

The delegation of the national ulema conference committee, headed by Imron Rosjadi, and including Zamroni H. Mahbub Hjunaedi and Said Baidori, met on Tuesday with the Minister of Internal Affairs Soepardjo Rustam at the Internal Affairs building.

Following that meeting, Imron, serving as spokesman, explained that the meeting was merely a consultation about preparations for the forthcoming national ulema conference scheduled for Situbondo, East Java from 18-21 December.

Replying to a reporters question, Imron said they had recently read about the existence of a NU national conference committee in the newspapers. If that were true, it would mean that committee was formed outside established statutes.

Without commenting on the legality or illegality of that committee, Imron Rosjadi said, among other things that, "In those statutes, it does not exist."

"Green Light"

Concerning the national ulema conference, he explained that they would definitely get the "green light," although the permit had not yet been signed. "Before very long, the permit will be issued," he said.

Commenting on the possibility that the national ulema conference will be given basic principles, he explained that this question was being assigned to the conference. "We only place that before them, and I do not presume to anticipate what the ulema conference will decide," he said.

In the discussions with the minister of Internal Affairs, it was revealed that they will prepare a paper connected with the basic principle to be introduced at the ulema conference.

First of all, it is clear that the national ulema conference will return to the spirit of 1926 which was interrupted in Semarang some time ago and has not been carried out since.

Imron Rosjadi also stated that all religious scholars will be invited, even to the working meetings. However, is that invitation to be interpreted as: "Wallahu a'lam [only God knows]?" Actually, those religious scholars not in attendance were never included when the national ulema conference was formed.

The secretary of the national conference committee, Djamaruddin Tarigan, said in the Parliament building on Tuesday that, of course, the national conference would differ from the national ulema conference scheduled for Situbondo.

Concerning Imron Rosjadi's comments toward the committee of which he is the secretary, Djamaruddin said it was definitely not as Imron had said. "You certainly know more about the question of organization," he laughed as he left the reporters.

He added that at this moment, the committee has drawn up a work program, and it is possible the national conference will be held in April. "The date and site will be determined in committee meetings," he noted.

Chalid Mawardi's Explanation

Deputy secretary of the PNU Chalid Mawardi, who is also chairman of the organizing committee for the 27th NU National Conference, said the national ulema conference is an active advisory program to study religious questions, and is not a forum for organizational deliberations.

Chalid Mawardi, who is a DPR member from the United Development Party faction [F-PPP], explained this to a reporter Tuesday in the Parliament building, noting that the 27th NU national conference will be held in April.

Chalid, the chairman of the National Conference Committee, was accompanied by deputy committee chairman Drs Abdul Padare, committee secretary H. Djamaruddin Tarigan, and other PNU leaders, Aminuddin Azis and Dahrif Nasution. He said that the decisions taken at the national ulema conference would be reported to the national conference. It was up to the national conference to accept or reject those decisions.

Chalid explained that the forum of the national ulema conference is recognized in the AD/ART of the NU. Because it is not a forum for discussion of organization, it does not have the authority to make political or organizational decisions. Thus, those decisions of the national ulama conference which are organizational or political are invalid.

Chalid admitted that as deputy secretary general of the PNU he was unsure about the forthcoming national ulema conference. He noted that the national ulema conference is a meeting of muslim scholars, while he, himself, was not far advanced as a muslim scholar.

Reconciliation

He explained that the organizing committee for the 27th NU National Conference was formed on 25 November in a plenary session of the PNU. In addition to Chalid, the chairman, the committee is comprised of four deputy chairmen, namely, H. Muhammad Baidowi; Amin Iskandar; Drs Syah Manaf and Drs Abdul Padare the committee secretary; H. Djamaruddin Tarigan and three deputy secretaries, namely, Drs Rochim Hasan; Achmad Bagdja and Syahri.

The session to form the committee was attended by the general chairman of the PNU, incumbent since the 27th [as published] National Conference in 1979--KH Idham Chalid, KH Ali Yafii, first chairman, HM Imam Sofwan, HM and Aminuddin Aziz, among others.

Chalid Mawardi explained that the national NU conference is routinely held every 5 years, in accordance with NU AD/ART. The conference will elect new administrators, plan the [NU] program and change the AD/ART, among other things.

Responding to a question concerning the desire of all factions in the NU to return to the year 1926, Chalid said that what was meant by the return to 1926 was merely a return to the spirit of struggle and devotion.

He noted that many changes had taken place during the last generation. "The NU is no longer free of responsibility to the people, state and society."

With regard to relations with the PPP, he stressed that the link between the NU and the PPP is an historic link, because the NU took part in the founding of the PPP. "The NU plays a role in the entire order of battle of the PPP," he said, adding that the national conference is expected to be a forum for harmony.

The NU participation in the PPP cannot be compared with the Muhammadiyah, because the NU was previously a political party.

Meanwhile, chairman of the PNU H. Nuddin Lubis, who is also deputy chairman of the Parliament/People's Consultative Congress [DPR/MPR], said that the NU organization produced by the 1979 national conference in Semarang would end in 1984.

Concerning this matter, Nuddin Lubis said that as with other questions, it would be discussed at the national conference.

When asked about the replacement of the general chairman during the national conference, Nuddin Lubis said, "As everyone knows, we don't have to discuss that now. Basically, there is no muddy water that cannot be made clear."

April Conference

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 30 Nov 83 pp 1, 9

[Text] The NU will hold its 27th national conference in Jakarta in April 1984, to "restore the spirit of struggle that is inspired by brotherhood and devotion."

H. A. Chalid Mawardi, chairman of the organizing committee for the national conference said this to a correspondent on Tuesday in Parliament. The national conference, which is held every 5 years, will be attended by the entire PNU as well as NU regional and branch figures.

According to Chalid Mawardi, the committee was formed in a plenary session of the PNU in Jakarta on 23 November. The session was attended by NU deputy chairman KH Anwar Musadat; first chairman KH M. Ali Yafie; KH Usman Abidin and Dr Idham Chalid, general chairman.

Responding to a question about the national conference, Chalid Mawardi said all was customary and routine. This means in keeping with the AD/ART of the PNU, the NU held its national conference every 5 years.

The last national conference was held in Semarang from 5-11 June 1979. But because that month occurs during Ramadan, the PNU decided on April 1984.

Matters for Discussion

Chalid Mawardi explained the topics which will be studied at the national conference, such as the policy responsibility of the NU leadership, the basic program, the party rules, questions associated with Islam and the Muslim community, and the selection of new leaders.

According to a member of Parliament from the FPP [United Development Faction], it is possible the national conference will also discuss the historic relationship between the NU and the PPP. At this point, the NU is very much in line with the PPP. Although there are many problems, and differences have developed during the growth of the NU, Chalid Mawardi expects the 27th national conference to be a forum for NU harmony.

Concerning the function of the NU ulema conference which is held every 2 years, he stressed that the results of the ulema conference will be conveyed to the national conference. "The national conference can accept or reject them," he noted.

No Need to Open Old Wounds

He was asked about the formula for holding a successful national conference which produces unity. He said that personally, he had proposed that all sides not mention the problems of 1982. This case involved the resignation and the withdrawal of the resignation of Idham Chalid as general chairman of the NU. "Also, we do not need to open old wounds from the national ulema conference in Kaliurang. Everyone knows that."

He added that in his view, regional leaders and branch delegates who will be attending the national conference had no need to bring up those incidents. "The 1984 national conference is for unity and brotherhood," he said.

All Issues

Meanwhile, the chairman of the PNU H. Nuddin Lubis, who is also deputy chairman of the DPR/MPR, said at a separate location that the forthcoming national conference would discuss all problems.

Concerning the relationship between the national conference and the national ulema conference slated for Situbondo in December, he believes "They are not connected to one another."

He stated firmly that the national conference is able to settle all questions. "There is no muddy water which cannot be made clear," he explained." For

this, every party member, and especially the delegates who will attend the national conference must be sincere, and able to control themselves."

"Even though some will lose their positions?", a reporter asked. "Yes, even though [some lose their positions]," answered Nuddin Lubis.

Meeting the Internal Affairs Minister

Minister of Internal Affairs Soepardjo Roestam met with a four-person national ulema conference committee in his office for 1 hour on Tuesday.

The four committeemen--H. Imron Rosjadi, S.H.; Mahbub Djunaedi; Drs Zamroni; and Said Budari--reported that the national ulema conference will be held 18-21 December in Situbondo, East Java.

When questioned by the press later, the minister said, "we only consulted about the forthcoming NU ulema conference."

Soepardjo added that Minister of Religion Prof Munawir Sjadzali was, of course, asked to participate in the visit of the committee. Meanwhile, Drs Faisal Tamim, head of public relations for the Department of Internal Affairs, said the committee had asked the minister to attend and speak to the national ulema conference.

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INDONESIA

NARO TO ORGANIZE PPP CONGRESS

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 13 Dec 83 pp 1, 7

[Text] Nurhasan Ibnu Hajar, Drs, chairman of the DPP [Central Executive Board] of the PPP [United Development Party], said yesterday that the PPP Congress should not be a problem. This is because there has been a favorable response from Dr H. J. Naro, general chairman of the PPP Board.

Nurhasan Ibnu Hajar, Drs, revealed this in a private conversation with PELITA at the PPP Board office on Diponegoro Street, Jakarta.

He said that Dr H. J. Naro is prepared to hold the congress, with one pre-condition, of course, which will allow the congress to run smoothly in agreement with our common wishes.

In response to a question from PELITA, Nurhasan went on to explain that what he meant by one pre-condition was the prior removal of any possible points of dissension. This has already been taken into consideration by the general chairman.

Nurhasan refused to say what he meant by points of dissension and what steps had already been taken.

Because of that, he said, there was no point in discussing whether a Congress would take place or not. "It would be better," Nurhasan continued, "for us to support the efforts which the general chairman is making to organize the Congress."

Not Discussed Yet

In response to further questions from PELITA, Nurhasan refused to say whether the PPP Congress had been discussed at the PPP Board or not and whether a congress committee already exists or not.

The PPP Congress became a hot question again after Sudardji, Drs, said that it would be a national scandal if the PPP did not hold a Congress right away. Mustafa Hafas, member of the DPR Parliament, suggested that a mediator be appointed between the various leaders of the PPP, before the Congress takes place.

Sudardji, Drs, and Mustafa Hafas are both from the MI [Indonesian Moslem Association] faction of the PPP and Nurhasan is from the PERTI [Islamic Educational Union] faction. Nobody from the NU [Moslem Scholars Party] group was prepared to make a statement about the PPP Congress, perhaps because they were too busy getting ready for the ulemas' national conference in Situbondo [East Java].

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INDONESIA

LABOR-INTENSIVE SYSTEM FOR TRANSMIGRATION LAND

Use of Labor-Intensive System

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 13 Dec 83 pp 1, 9

[Text] The government is considering the possibility of using the labor-intensive system for the preparation of transmigration land. This will be accomplished by decreasing the use of heavy machinery and replacing it with human labor in an effort to increase employment opportunities. Soentoro Sastrosoewarno, Drs., director of Transmigration Settlement Preparations, made this statement at the Department of Information on Monday [12 December].

Up to now, about 80 percent of the land preparation carried out by contractors has involved heavy machinery. Only 20 percent has been done by human labor. "In the upcoming PELITA IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan], we will try to increase the use of human labor to 34 percent of the entire activities of preparing settlement lands," said the director general.

Contractors' Burden

Since almost all of the land preparation is done by contractors, naturally they are the ones who have to use more manpower. In other words, the contractors have been asked to make greater use of manpower from the area of origin or from areas with dense populations, using a salary scale determined by the government.

After the preparations of transmigration land have been completed, the workers can turn into migrants and continue the work which they have pioneered. In an indirect way, the government carried out such activities 3 or 4 years ago. After completing the Cok Girek (Aceh) sugar factory, workers from AKAN [Interregional Interlabor] were not sent back to Java but instead were settled in a transmigration area near this project.

However, Director General Soentoro admitted that using the labor-intensive system for the preparation of transmigration land is not as easy as it sounds. We must make careful plans and calculations to determine whether the labor-intensive system might not be too slow. The work can not be carried out continuously for 12 months; the climate, the weather, and so on must be taken into account.

Reservoir Dams

In addition, according to Soentoro, during PELITA IV every dry transmigration area will be equipped with a reservoir dam. Instructions to this effect have been given to every Transmigration KANWIL [Regional Office] in the reception areas and to the contractors concerned.

These dams are important, especially for the water needs of the transmigrants during the dry season. The water can be used for drinking, for making rice paddies, for watering plants, and so forth.

The P2W TRANSTERPADU [Building and Development of the Unified Transmigration Region] has already given us an example of building dams in a transmigration project in the Tulang Bawang project in North Lampung. With two simple dams built by P2W TRANSTERPADU, the transmigrants in this project have never been short of water during the dry season. Whereas, in the rainy season, the dammed-up water can be used to make wet-rice paddies in this flat valley.

Interspersed Transmigration

The directorate general of Transmigration Settlement Land Preparations will continue to mark the boundaries of the transmigration land and the surrounding land. The boundary is in the form of a path cleared by a tractor.

This is needed in order to prevent or cut down on land disputes between the transmigrants and the long-time residents of the area. Up to now, there have been many cases of transmigration areas that had already been decided on and prepared for use by transmigrants and all of a sudden, because of the lack of definite boundaries, the long-time residents of the area have claimed that land. This has resulted in frustrating disputes for the migrants.

Meanwhile, H. Ayib Rughby, director general for Mobilization and Development of Transmigration, said that during PELITA IV the government will introduce interspersed transmigration, i. e. small groups of migrants interspersed among the villages of the long-time residents. "The local government will bear most of the burden of regulating and overseeing this interspersed transmigration," he said.

Project areas are mainly along the trans-Sumatra, trans-Kalimantan and trans-Sulawesi highways.

Sudomo Welcomes Plan

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 19 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Minister of Manpower Sudomo welcomed the idea of using the labor-intensive system in preparing transmigration settlement land during the up-coming PELITA IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan] since this method, like that used under the PIR [Small-holders' Nuclear Estates] system, can provide employment opportunities. It means improving the welfare of the masses without decreasing the efficiency of the project.

Sudomo made this statement in response to reporters' questions in Pasuruan [East Java] last week, after witnessing the signing of an agreement between PT [Inc.] Grati Agung and PERUM [Public Corporation] ASTEK [Manpower Social Insurance].

"In the past, we weren't involved in these problems. Everything was handed directly over to the contractor," he said. He stated that some work had to be done by heavy machinery. However, roadmaking, for example, does not have to be done by tractor. It can be done by human labor, in particular by people from the area.

Soentoro Sastrosoewarno, Drs, director general of Transmigration Settlement Preparation, said that up to now about 80 percent of preparation activities has been carried out by contractors using heavy machinery. Only 20 percent has been performed by human labor.

During the upcoming PELITA IV, attempts will be made to increase the use of human labor to 34 percent of the land preparation activities by means of labor-intensive projects. When the resettlement lands have been prepared completely, the laborers can then become the transmigrants.

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INDONESIA

SUDOMO ON FBSI'S IMAGE

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 13 Dec 83 p 11

[Text] Minister of Manpower Sudomo hopes that the FBSI [All-Indonesia Labor Federation] will become a strong organization capable of solving manpower problems. It is hoped that the FBSI will participate in thinking about and creating programs to increase the welfare of the workers. Sudomo emphasized this in Jakarta on Monday [12 December] while opening a three-day seminar entitled "Increasing the Welfare of Village Labor."

FBSI's bad image needs to be improved. In the past, FBSI just demanded pay raises and urged workers to strike; now, it must create programs which are directly advantageous to the workers. FBSI should hold seminars and workshops which result in ideas that can be put directly into action, said Sudomo.

He stressed that up to now seminars have often only had theoretical results. FBSI should not imitate this. Efforts to solve manpower problems should result in workers becoming more self-sufficient.

The minister said that in the up-coming PELITA IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan] the goals would be to increase employment opportunities and the productivity of the poor. They are the target, particularly in the informal sector in big cities and in agriculture in the villages.

Sudomo said that the DEPNAKER [Department of Manpower] in the Fourth Development Cabinet will make manpower training in the villages its first priority, by means of traveling training units. TKS [Local Cost-of-Living Allowance] BUTSI [Indonesian Volunteer Labor Board] will be used as the dynamic force or impetus behind the drive to increase village productivity, said the minister.

Thinking Maturity

Agus Sudono, general chairman of the DPP [Central Executive Council] of the FBSI, said on this occasion that we can better the life of the workers and their families by increasing their special skills. And so workers who live in the villages will be able to use their spare time at home to produce something useful which will better their lives.

According to Agus Sudono, the FBSI can help the workers and their families in a village development project by means of positive, self-activating and self-supporting activities. Workshops organized by the FBSI in cooperation with the ILO [International Labor Organization] should be really concrete, not just an arena for exchanging information and experiences. They must really produce something to better the lives of the workers and their families.

In addition, Agus Sudono emphasized that FBSI should act in a mature way and think about programs which can help the workers, particularly those who are really hoping for FBSI's helping hand. With development programs such as these, according to Agus Sudono, FBSI and its members will be able to think in a more mature way, understand the situation and not end up taking unreasonable measures.

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INDONESIA

FBSI: HARD TO WIN HIGHER WAGES

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 13 Dec 83 pp 1, 11

[Text] Agus Sudono, general chairman of the Central Executive Board of the All-Indonesia Labor Federation (DPP-FBSI) said that it is difficult for FBSI to win as big an increase in wages as they would want because it is difficult for many medium and small entrepreneurs to increase their ability to pay during this recession.

Agus Sudono made this statement on Monday morning [12 December] to the participants of the National Workshop of the FBSI held in cooperation with the ILO [International Labor Organization]. This workshop is concerned with efforts to improve the lives of village workers. It is being held for 2 days in Jakarta.

According to Agus Sudono, numerically, weak and middle-level entrepreneurs constitute the majority of entrepreneurs in Indonesia. There are millions of workers whose livelihood depends on the progress and prosperity of these entrepreneurs. And so, millions of members of the workers' families also depend on the success or failure of their efforts.

He explained that the pressures of this long-lasting recession will make it even more difficult to improve the social-economic lives of the workers, because there are many things that we have to take into account.

The FBSI general chairman said that although the economies of the United States and Japan appeared to be recovering in 1983, the effects of that recovery are being absorbed very slowly by other countries, so that the developing countries will continue to feel the aftermath of the recession until 1985.

He also said that with no signs of improvement in the quotas or price of oil on the international market, Indonesia, whose dependence on oil still strongly colors national income, will feel the effects of the recession for another 2 or 3 years.

He said that the FBSI realizes that the efforts and struggles to increase the standard of living of laborers and village workers is no easy matter. At this moment, there are about 11 million agricultural workers in Java alone, which means about 50 million people whose lives depend on those workers.

Besides that, there are still about 1 million FBSI members who live in the villages but work in the cities.

"This is why the land reform and sharecropping laws must be carried out really thoroughly. This is in line with the ideals of the New Order to struggle for social Justice for all our people," said Agus Sudomo.

Not Reachable

In his briefing, Minister of Manpower Sudomo said that village labor, also known as agricultural labor, is a low-income group at the moment. They can not be reached by the development and supervision functions of the Department of Manpower, but they also can not be reached or have not yet been reached by the Indonesian union, FBSI.

Village labor is unreachable, according to the minister, because in general they work at informal jobs based on sharecropping agreements on the land which they work.

He said that the present lack of large pieces of land to work is the reason that the income of agricultural workers, who live below the poverty line, especially on Java, is so low. Almost 11 million farm families live on the yields of less than 1/2-hectare of land per family. "We are also facing the fact that many workers live in the villages or outside the city and work in the cities as day laborers at low wages," said Sudomo.

And yet, the informal sector, which provides employment opportunities in the big cities and the villages, is an important potential resource.

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INDONESIA

MASS ORGANIZATION BILL

Sudharmono's Statement

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Dec 83 p 5

[Text] Sudharmono, as minister of state and state secretary, confirmed that a mass organization bill would be brought to the DPR [People's Consultative Assembly] next year. He hoped that the bill would be ratified into law by 1985 at the latest.

He repeated his previous statement that one basic principle for mass organizations would be firmly put into effect in that bill. When asked what would happen if after that bill had been ratified and turned into law, there were still mass organizations not ready to accept PANCASILA [Five Principles of the Nation] as their sole principle, the minister said that he would be surprised if there were any mass organizations unwilling to accept PANCASILA as their basic principle.

According to the minister, after the bill is passed, mass organizations will certainly have to hold congresses in order to bring themselves into line with the new legislation. "If they keep on refusing to accept PANCASILA, at the very least the government will not recognize the organization concerned. This does not mean that those organizations will be disbanded; but rather, we will pay no attention to them and they will just be ignored, provided that they do not violate the regulations."

PDI Faction Leader's Opinion

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 13 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Marsoesi, Drs, vice-chairman of the PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party] faction in the DPR [People's Consultative Assembly], said that the mass organization bill now being prepared by the government is apparently 99 percent complete. His faction is ready to discuss that bill.

According to Marsoesi, Drs, mass organization laws will be a guarantee for Indonesian youth organizations which are now facing a period of transition. The development of youth organizations is still uncertain at the moment; in fact, some youth organizations which are, as it were, the substructures of political forces are appearing now, even though, according to law No. 3/1975, PARPOL/GOLKAR [Political Parties/Functional Group Party] do not have substructures.

Marsoesi, Drs, said that PANCASILA as the sole principle still remains a stumbling-block for the mass organization bill. There are still some youth organizations which have not yet accepted that principle. Since the GMNI (Indonesian National Student Movement) has stated that it had accepted that sole principle and since there has been an agreement within the NU [Moslem Scholars Party] about that sole principle, the pathway to acceptance by all parties is becoming smoother.

Marsoesi, Drs, believes that it is not necessary to distinguish between basic principle and basis. Given the chance, professional, national and religious political differences will keep on appearing. "As a long-term national strategy, it would be best not to give basic principle and basis the chance to be distinguished from each other," he said.

Organizations can be distinguished from each other by their programs. "That's where we will be able to tell the difference between what each organization is fighting for," said Marsoesi.

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INDONESIA

MP ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 16 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Indonesia's policies on foreign capital investments (PMA) have not yet given economically-weaker groups the chance to develop. Besides that, there is a good chance that one foreign country will dominate investments in Indonesia.

H. M. Yunus Umar, Drs, member of Commission IV of the DPR-RI [Republic of Indonesia People's Consultative Assembly], made this statement to reporters yesterday at the DPR.

He said that it is time for Indonesia's foreign capital investment policies to try to include economically-weaker entrepreneurs. It would be appropriate for the government to urge economically-weaker entrepreneurs to participate in implementing PMA.

Up to now, only economically-stronger groups have benefited from the PMA sector.

The Biggest is Japan

He said that Japan occupies first place, from the viewpoint of structure, make-up, type and project, in capital investment in Indonesia. Japanese investments total U.S. \$4,344 million with 210 projects, while United States investments were only U.S. \$644.4 million with 73 projects. These are the figures as of October 1983.

According to Yunus Umar, it is possible that Japan dominates the capital investment field because the Japanese know more about the ins and outs and the art of investing in Indonesia.

If one foreign country dominates investments, it can have internal influence on the domestic economy. Besides that, if one country dominates the PMA field, the result will be that other countries will be less interested in investing in Indonesia.

Such dominance will also have social and cultural effects, in that this generation will be better acquainted with Japanese production than with that of their own people.

He stated that the BKPM [Capital Investment Policy Board] should reexamine this policy so as to create a greater balance among foreign countries in the structure and amount of investments. In short, the government should guard against an imbalance.

Bureaucracy

Quoting Craig A. Nalen, head of the OPIC (Overseas Private Investment Corporation) delegation, who said that the biggest obstacle to capital investment in Indonesia is its bureaucracy, Yunus Umar said that the BKPM and government agencies in the field of EKUIN [Economy, Finance and Industry] should examine themselves carefully.

At the managerial level, implementing PMA in Indonesia seems to be fine, but at the next level of implementation an intricate bureaucracy appears and even administration is very complicated.

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INDONESIA

BANK OF INDONESIA ON PRIORITY CREDITS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] The bank of Indonesia will not create new types of priority credits in addition to the 13 types which already exist. Even if various business associations repeatedly ask for their areas to be included in the priority category, the Bank of Indonesia will continue to turn down such requests.

Hendrobudiyanto, director of the Bank of Indonesia, made this statement on Thursday [15 December] to those attending the Fifth National Meeting of the MPI (Indonesian Lumber Society) being held in the Kirana Ball Room of the Chandra Kartika Hotel in Jakarta. A. Baramuli, S.H. [Doctor of Jurisprudence], an officer of the MPI, chaired the second day of the meetings.

The 13 priority credits include Small Investment Credit (KIK), Permanent Working Capital Credit (KMKP), export credit and small-vendor loans. Priority credits carry a low interest rate. Since the implementation of the banking policies of 1 June 1983, nonpriority credit interest rates have risen so high that they have caused great difficulties for entrepreneurs.

"We are aware that interest rates are very high now. However, it is hard to create new types of priority credit because we are keeping a close watch over our balance of payments," said Hendro.

He added that if general credit received a lot of priority, it would cause problems for our balance of payments because 40 to 60 percent of those types of credit are for importing fuel or for capital goods. Imports will reduce Indonesian foreign exchange reserves and weaken our balance of payments position.

"Many business associations come to the Bank of Indonesia and ask for priority credit. I will continue to turn down all such requests, and I will probably be very unpopular among entrepreneurs," he said.

Every entrepreneur who comes in asks for priority credit and always says that his field is very important and should be granted priority. The government has selected 13 types of priority credit from among various types of credit which have already been given high priority so that it is difficult to add any others.

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CSO: 4213/124

TRI SUGAR PLANTING SYSTEM

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Beginning with the 1984/85 planting season, all smallholders' sugarcane planting, including Smallholders' Partial Sugarcane (TRP) and Smallholders' Free Sugarcane (TRB), will be included in the TRI (Smallholders' Sugarcane Intensification) program. The aim is to expand the application of the intensification program in order to increase productivity.

KOMPAS sources at the Department of Agriculture revealed last week that this program is based on plans to revamp the TRI program (Inpres [Presidential Instruction] 9/1975) in conformity with President Suharto's instructions. The Minister of Agriculture's order will be issued soon.

Based on these new regulations, the TRB which takes part in the TRI program can then be milled in a sugar mill, but really free TRB (unregulated) may not be milled in a sugar mill. These farmers will be asked to process their free sugar into brown sugar or something else that is needed.

To stabilize the implementation of the TRI program, sugar mills will be given a bigger role, including management of the work spheres. Increased supervision and control are needed in order to achieve an increase in productivity and in farmers' income.

30 Percent Maximum

Besides that, sugar mills will be responsible for the stockpiling, availability and distribution of top-quality sugarcane seedlings through the cultivation of experimental seedling plantations (KBP). The use of the land for seedlings will be regulated by work agreements with the farmers who own the land, based on a new formula which will make sure that the farmer does not take a loss.

Sugarcane seedlings for the TRI program will have to come from the KBP, except for certain planting areas which for technical reasons require the use of seedlings from sprout cuttings, and this must be complied with from the first planting generation. The use of seedlings from sprout cuttings can not exceed 30 percent of the TRI I (wet-land TRI) and the TRIT I (dry/unirrigated land TRI).

The Question of Credit

KOMPAS sources stated that the TRI credit set aside for farmers is government-guaranteed working capital credit. It is distributed to farmers from the BRI [Bank of Indonesia] through selected KUD [Village Cooperative Units]. The KUD concerned and a farmer or group of farmers must reach an agreement with each other about this.

Credit for tilling, harvesting and transporting the sugarcane will be handed over entirely to the farmers. If the work has to be given over to another party, for example the KUD or the sugar mill, the farmer or group of farmers will have to sign an authorization.

If the KUD concerned is not able (does not fulfill the conditions) to distribute the credit, the BRI will channel it directly to the farmers. In this case, the farmers involved must get a recommendation from the sugar mill or the arrangements will be made by a group of farmers via the sugar mill.

In coordinating the BIMAS [Mass Guidance Program] Steering Unit, the BIMAS Development Unit, and the BIMAS Executive Unit, the Director General and the Agricultural Service in the provinces are functionally responsible for the technical implementation of the program, by monitoring and administering it.

Must be Examined

At a working meeting between the DGI (Indonesian Sugar Board) and Commission IV of the DPR [People's Consultative Assembly] held last Monday [12 December], Sudjai Kartasasmita, DGI secretary general, said there has been virtually no increase in manpower since the 1975 changeover from the rental system to the TRI system. On the other hand, every year there has been an increase in the area planted in sugarcane.

Although the size of the planting area has increased, sugar production per hectare has in fact decreased. "The main cause has been the failure, up to now, to apply intensification in a firm way. This is evident from the decline in the length of time the plant grows and in the quality of sugarcane-plantation work," said Sudjai.

Eng Abdulrachman Angkuti, member of Commission IV from the Development Work faction, has a different opinion. He said that Javanese farmers have always been known as tough and hardworking. They quickly accept new agricultural technology, including the technology for sugarcane cultivation and for the sugarcane industry.

It is strange that sugar production per hectare in Indonesia has continued to decline every year since the cultivation of sugarcane was put into the hands of the farmers via the TRI program. Abdulrachman stated, "It is possible that up to now something has gone wrong in the technology transfer for sugarcane cultivation and for the sugarcane industry. This problem must be studied immediately in order to prevent an even bigger loss in the future."

VIEWERS URGED NOT TO WATCH THAI TV

Vientiane VANNASIN in Lao Dec 83 p 6

/Article by Fangsai: "Talking Together Happily With a Clear Mind" /

/Text/ Comrade A is clear-minded, Comrade B is happy, and Comrade C is relieved. Everyone is giving praise!

My next door neighbor, At's mother, ran in excitedly carrying a newspaper covering the news about the official Lao TV.

"Is it really true that they have started a TV station?"

"Yes, it is!"

"Oh, this makes me so happy! I'm so tired of taking care of my children because I am afraid they would be poisoned like those of some parents who do not pay enough attention to their children."

"Why do you say that?"

"So you don't know yet that Thai TV programs are a serious and dangerous poison?"

"Is that so!"

"Is that so, is that so, you say." Don't you see children whose parents don't pay attention them and just let them watch Thai TV? They end up becoming gangsters, imitating violence and gangsterism and they don't pay attention to their studies. No, no! I absolutely won't let them become victims of the savage society that is going on in Thailand. Don't you know that the reason that Thai TV uses poison, and encourages evil in society is to destroy children, even in Thailand itself? It is a criminal act that we cannot allow to happen, and that should also be condemned to the world.

In fact, our party realized this problem from the beginning. The world including the Thai masses have been seeing this problem themselves as shown by the following excerpt from "Thailand in Western Eyes" by "Samingphrapradeng," translated from the memoirs of Jerry Canton of the International School in Bangkok, /written in Thai/.

"For Thai TV entertainment, if you are not sure of your tolerance and if you don't want to become feeble-minded don't watch it." /written in Thai/ (If you're not sure you can tolerate Thai TV and if you don't want to be feeble-minded, you are better off not watching it) /material in parentheses written in Lao/.

Because of concern over our children's future and to meet the cultural needs of the Lao masses, it was decided to provide the necessary capital for our TV construction. It is important that although our republic is still young and has great financial problems, we managed it. This is different from the old regime where they fought among themselves for at least 450 million American dollars, but didn't do a thing. Besides that, even in downtown Vientiane itself they did not even bother to make repairs, and many roads were not even paved with asphalt. Now we are still facing difficulties and the enemies do not leave us alone. However, we work gradually; we cannot build at the same pace /to finish/ like the pyramids. We started to work on Vieng Canal for we want to make our republic last 50 years. There is no doubt it will be quick. The same goes for television. Of course, this is first of all a victory for our regime. It represents justice, and it provides knowledge and instruction. It gives a true view and will represent our goals and progress.

We are relieved the same as a number of Thai people who love their children, and their progress, goodness, and justice. When they view our programs they will even thank us. In the beginning there may still be mistakes and shortcomings, which is not uncommon; however, the future is bright for us.

9884
CSO: 4206/70

GOVERNMENT CADRE WANTS TO QUIT WORK TO MAKE MONEY

Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Jan 84 pp 6, 14

'Problems in Life' Column: "What Makes a Good Husband?"

/Excerpt/ /Question/ Dear MEGNING LAO. I have been following MEGNING LAO magazine regularly, especially the "Problems in Life" Column concerning matters on promoting family happiness. Because your column provides us with many aspects of knowledge about families, I decided to write to you to discuss some problems we do not know how to solve. I would like to briefly describe my family situation as follows.

We have been married a fairly long time and we have four children. My wife is a government cadre responsible for a section committee and also a unit committee member of a ministry women's association. I myself am a division chief with fairly serious responsibilities. There are only husband, wife, and four children. Our oldest daughter has just turned 12, the second daughter is 10, the third, a son, is 8, and the youngest, a son, is 5. No one can help shoulder the family burden yet, and both have a lot of work to do and have to strive to complete the task each is responsible for, and also struggle to put time into improving the family economy in order to raise the standard of living. Maybe it's because of many confusing tasks that my wife has changed. Whenever we discuss a problem she becomes impatient. I am not talkative myself and am not interested in minor problems. When I see her impatient I do not answer. Sometimes I just walk away and avoid arguments. This happens often in our family and has not been solved. Sometimes my wife complains that she wants to quit her work in order to build up the family economy, but I do not agree. If I let her quit her work I would be interfering with her future, when she has come this far and she herself is active. She still has a future ahead of her. Dear editor. I want to encourage my children and wife to try harder but I do not know . . . do. My wife has now told me that we should make our family into a . . . tural family. She will train herself to achieve the standard of the "t...ee goodnesses and two duties" of Lao women and I have to take part in being a good husband and an excellent father for our children.

I already am the best husband and excellent father of my children! Why does my wife still talk this way? I would like to ask you the following.

What is the right way to encourage my children and wife correctly? How can I become a good husband? Do you have any criteria for this? Please explain this and advise me on this! Second, why has my wife changed to become impatient? From, "male friend."

Answer Dear "male friend": We are proud to know that there is a friend who pays attention to MEGNING LAO regularly. "Male friend," you are the first male who has written a letter to us.

First of all, MEGNING LAO would like to admire your family where both husband and wife are cadres, a young family with a good future and also good ideology, which is the desire to make your family a true new cultural family. This is a good idea, and basically demonstrates that no matter how hard the work of both husband and wife is, with no help to lessen the burden of the family tasks and even having to raise four children, both husband and wife struggle to carry out their own duties and also strive to build up the family economy. From what you describe MEGNING LAO can see that your family is fairly happy. What is most important is that both husband and wife have the same correct ideology. However, your technique for carrying it our might not be fast enough yet, thus leading to some small problems that are solvable.

MEGNING LAO will answer each of your questions as follows. 1. What is the right way to encourage children and wife? What can we do to be a good husband? If you have any standard criteria for this, please advise me.

Dear "male friend"! The issue of improving family life is a most correct problem. Those who are interested in this problem are persons with morality and who truly love their children and wife. However, successfully improving family life requires patience on the part of both husband and wife and takes a long time to carry out. The patience we are talking about does not mean we should not talk. It is the patience of taking time and giving reasons to explain things to each other when one does not yet understand.

As to the standard for being a good husband or what we can do to become a good husband, many people view this problem differently. The same goes for the opinions on a good wife's duties which are different. For example, some think that to be a good husband means to provide adequate money for the family, and that's it. Some say that being a good husband means letting a wife do whatever she wants. If she wants to get angry just let her, avoid arguments, and provide her with a comfortable living.

In addition to these there are many other different ideas that we consider as only one way to be a good husband. MEGNING LAO sees a good husband as the following.

A good husband provides happiness and security to his family. He gives advice when his wife does not do things correctly, and he is also a friend who is ready to help, to share weal and woe and shoulder together all the burdens of the family, e.g., the problems of training their children, the family economy, maintaining good health for everyone in the family, and helping all family members to make progress which is the center of happiness for the family.

When we want our family to really get along and be happy, first of all husband and wife must try to deeply understand each other. Then each must change their old disagreeable behavior for the other person.

Normally, a family must have a head of household, the father. The family is a small unit of society. Thus, a family should lead a normal life so it will help improve order and development of all in the family. Parents might use this time to teach their children, except in special cases only when a child has a special problem. Besides running the collective life in their family, husband and wife should find additional special time to discuss all the problems in their family that they do not want their children to know about. This way the couple will have a better understanding of each other. One of the family members might be assigned to run the family as a driving force in uniting family members together; however, this should be under the guidance of the head of the family.

2. Why has my wife changed to be impatient and to get angry, especially when we discuss family problems?

The reason your wife has changed could be because of the difficulty of the work that she is responsible for, or because she is concerned about family life or the children's educational problems and behavior, or it could be a problem of you yourself. You should look at yourself whether you were interested in raising the standard of living over the past 10 years or not, or took part in teaching the children effectively. Have you attentively and closely followed up the ideology and happiness of your children and wife as you should? Have you supported family tasks as you should?

What we are talking about does not mean that you have not carried out these duties. However, before understanding each other, first of all, each must check himself first and avoid the tendency to take one's own side. (One must know one's own strengths and accept one's own weaknesses). By doing this the couple will be ready to solve all family disputes together. Then your family will become a happy family.

Based on your description we notice that your wife is a woman with progressive ideas. The impatience, getting angry toward children, and various complaints might be more moodiness than an intent to destroy family happiness. If she has old-fashioned ideology she will not turn over a new leaf in her work and shoulder the responsibility of raising children and improving family life. Meanwhile, she also makes time for discussing family affairs with you. These things are progressive ideas for those who want their family to be happy. However, she still lacks reason to explain to you. Maybe she did explain it but you didn't listen to her reasons. Thus, this could possibly have led to her impatience and getting angry. This is why we suggest that you examine yourself and if the problems still exist you should gradually try to change little by little until you succeed.

9884
CSO: 4206/70

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE GUERRILLA ACTIVITY--The people in Ban Nong Boua and other villages in Na Mon Canton, Kasi District, Vientiane Province all know the great achievements of Comrade Siangphon, a young man who has not lost his past activeness. Siangphon, a child of Ban Nong Boua, has employed his youth in the revolution since 28 May 1975 by volunteering to join a mobile guerrilla unit to maintain the peace and happiness of the country by helping the people of ethnic groups in this area and all over the country to feel secure and /to give/ undying support in the construction of socialism and the nation. After being tested in the ranks of the youth union and national defense and security, Siangphon, who stood at the forefront of this task especially after he was assigned to be chief of the mobile guerrilla company, has led his colleagues in defense work a total of 50 times, killed 20 and arrested 205 enemy personnel, destroyed 5 enemies' nests, and seized 21 weapons and a number of documents. They also captured eight spies who had sneaked in to mingle with the people. After these effective activities, Comrade Siangphon was praised as outstanding by the higher echelons and by the people of ethnic groups in the areas, and he has also become trusted by all levels of organizations. /Text/ /Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 15-30 Nov 83 p 6/ 9884

CHAMPASSAK DISTRICT MILITARY RECRUITMENT--Pathoumphon Canton is located in Pathoumphon District on Route 13 40 km south of Pakse District, an important district of Champassak Province. Pathoumphon Canton has 17 villages. The people of ethnic groups in this canton all have a heritage of persistence. Under the unpopular old regime Pathoumphon Canton remained in a glorious and brave position and endured all the oppressive control. The greater the suppression the more the people sent their beloved children to take part in the national revolution. Thus, nowadays this heritage has been inherited by young people in this canton in the period of socialist construction. By inheriting their brave heritage the LPRYU throughout this canton is now actively emulating each other in defending and constructing the socialist nation under the leadership of the LPRP. Since then the youth union congress throughout the canton has been held for the first time, and as Comrade Somlan, assistant secretary of the LPRYU Executive Committee of this canton said to a NOUM LAO reporter: "In all of Pathoumphon Canton there is a total of 723 youth including 98 LPRYU members. There are 15 units under the canton base level youth union executive committee." In the party committee congress of Pathoumphon District that ended not long ago the party committee assessed the high value of the youth union work. In terms of quality, and the expansion and participation in the work

area, the Pathoumphon Canton youth union had outstanding achievements. For example, they built one training school for the canton, one canton store, one office building for the guerrilla unit and also increased /production/ in order to set up a treasury for the canton youth union. For example, they raised 500 chickens, grew 3 hectares of highland rice, 1 hectare of sesame seeds, and repaired roads twice. In talking about national defense and security, Comrade Mrs Khankeo, a member of the canton youth union responsible for national defense and security, also explained to us that they made efforts to emulate each other in carrying out the three solidarity and four offensives set by the LPRYU. There are 160 boys and girls from all over Pathoumphon Canton who have become guerrillas. There were 17 individuals who volunteered to join the regular forces. Now these youth union members are continuously emulating each other to carry out their duty unceasingly. /Excerpt/ /Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 15-30 Nov 83 p 7/ 9884

CSO: 4206/70

PHILIPPINES

FIRST LADY SIGNS 'COUNTERTRADE' AGREEMENT WITH SWISS

Involving KKK

Manile BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Text]

First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Imelda R. Marcos, chairman of the KKK-Processing Center Authority, signed yesterday a countertrade agreement with a Swiss company calling for an export of \$24 million and an import of \$20 million a year starting next month.

In addition the Swiss firm, Andre & Cie S.A., will extend a \$5-million credit facility for the opening of letters of credit to the KKK-PCA for the importation of raw materials.

The agreement was entered into by Andre & Cie and the KKK in accordance with Letter of Instructions 1371, issued by President Marcos for the KKK to resort to countertrade to establish a more equitable trading relationship between the Philippines and its more developed trading partners.

Mrs. Marcos said that the agreement should help ease the country's foreign exchange difficulties since countertrade

provides that part of the imports would be paid in Philippine goods and services.

She said that countertrade is different from strict barter because it is basically an exchange of commitments between two parties to buy and sell to each other within a given period; the deliveries of goods and services coming simultaneously or at different times.

Starting next month, Andre will buy from the KKK such goods as canned and dried fruits, builders' wood work and furniture components, hard fibers (abaca, maguey, and coco coir), tobacco and tobacco products, garments, footwear and leathergoods, electronic components and non-ferrous minerals.

In turn, the KKK will import from Andre such goods and raw materials as chemicals, textile, plas-

tic resins, fertilizer and pesticides, food processing plant for deli-meat and cashew nuts, farm implements and spare parts, and raw materials for the good industry.

The agreement with Andre & Cie came more than a month after the first countertrade agreement, worth \$22 million, signed by the First Lady with Hanjung Trading Co. of South Korea.

Editorial Explains 'Countertrade'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Countertrade"]

[Text] The term countertrade seems to be a misnomer in the sense that the practice does not restrain trade but rather facilitates it whenever it is resorted to.

Countertrade may take a variety of forms, but basically it is a barter or a quasi-barter arrangement that more or less explicitly links import and export transactions. (See Finance & Development, December, 1983)

It may take the forms of a barter arrangement, a compensation arrangement, buy-back arrangement, and counterpurchase arrangement.

The agreement entered into by the First Lady on behalf of the KKK-Processing Center Authority with the Swiss firm falls under the category of the counterpurchase arrangement, which is a common, if complicated, form of countertrade.

Countertrade of this type should be beneficial to the Philippines because within a specified period the country is assured of a market for certain products. At the same time, the country is assured of the supply of raw materials needed by industry, aside from an amount of credit facility.

The benefits are easily seen at this time when the country needs to export more and has to wrestle with the problem of scarcity of foreign exchange. It should be noted that in this arrangement the values of imports and exports are about even.

One significance of this arrangement with the Swiss firm is it will make certain Philippine products better known in the European market, thereby holding out the promise of more purchases from this country. In recent years, one of the constraints of our export business is the failure to transmit knowledge of our products abroad.

CSO: 4200/506

REALTY TAX COLLECTIONS UP

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Feb 84 p 6

[Text] Real property tax collection, which makes up 40 per cent of the total revenues of the local government, has been steadily rising in recent years.

The Ministry of Finance disclosed that the real property (realty) tax collection registered a 427.7 per cent increase, from P263 million in 1973 to P1.13 billion in 1982.

The ministry predicted a bigger jump in the realty tax collection this year following the completion of an 18-month tax mapping operation involving 570 cities and municipalities.

Through the tax mapping operations, undertaken from mid-1982 to December last year, local government units have expanded the coverage of taxable real properties within their respective territories.

In the process, real properties, particularly private lands and public lands on lease, were assessed in terms of size, actual boundaries, and current market value.

The data gathered will serve as a check against misdeclaration, a practice in which owners underestimate the value of their real properties so they will pay less tax.

Director Lorinda M. Carlos of the Finance Ministry's office of local government finance, said the tax mapping scheme will do away with difficulties in the tax assessment of agricultural lands transferred to tenant-farmers under the agrarian reform program.

The total assessed value of the country's real properties stood at P112 billion by the end of 1982. These are distributed as follows: Provinces--P48.6 billion, cities--P19.1 billion and Metro Manila--P44.2 billion.

The realty tax may be paid in one lump sum on or before March 31. But upon the taxpayer's option, it may be paid on a quarterly basis.

Late payment makes the taxpayer liable to a penalty of 2 per cent for each month or fraction of each month imposed on the amount due but in no case shall it exceed 24 per cent. (Domestic Information Service)

MARCOS SETS QUALIFICATIONS FOR KBL SELECTIONS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Feb 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Baguio City--President Marcos listed Sunday the qualifications of aspirants for KBL nomination as candidates for the May Batasan elections: Adherence to the party ideology, and integrity and dedication to public service.

The criteria were set as party regional chairmen started finalizing their recommendations for submission to the KBL central committee.

The committee, headed by the President, is expected to draw up the final list on Feb. 15.

For her part, the First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, who is also Metro Manila governor, said would-be KBL candidates in the area must show performance and acceptance by the people.

In a planeside interview at Loakan airport before her departure for Manila, where she will fulfill an engagement at the University of Life, the First Lady said the KBL will not take anything for granted, and will field the best possible candidates in Metro Manila. She will be back in Baguio tomorrow.

She said that as head of the KBL in Metro Manila, she would base her selection on a continuing survey being conducted "on what the people want."

In choosing KBL candidates, the central committee will be looking for aspirants who fully understand and can participate actively in advancing the party ideology and program, the President said.

"I think the first qualification should be identification with the ideology of the KBL," the President said.

In his book, "On Filipino Ideology," the President stressed the need for economic emancipation of the people as a step towards political liberation.

The President said that other considerations in the selection of candidates are their winning chances, their honesty and integrity, and dedication to public service.

With the criteria set by the President, it was understood that the equity of the incumbent rule will not count in the final selection.

Asked to comment on the ticket the KBL will field in Metro Manila, the President said:

"I would prefer that we have some people coming from Metro Manila who are really committed to the various programs that we have initiated, instead of people who are in politics for their selfish interests."

The First Lady said that she will check the latest survey on the possible KBL candidates in the area, saying that "we will submit the candidates who the people will like."

The record of performance is always the best criteria guide in choosing the candidates. "Somehow, the people know exactly what is good for them," the First Lady said.

Asked to assess the strength of the KBL in Metro Manila, in comparison to the now active opposition, the First Lady said, "I think the KBL is quite strong everywhere for that matter, but as you know, as the President said, we are all in the game and we are not taking any chances."

She said the attitude of the KBL in Metro Manila is that the opposition will be fielding the best candidates they have and therefore the KBL must always be prepared.

CSO: 4200/507

PHILIPPINES

PRIVATE ARMIES THREATEN BASILAN KBL MEETING

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by R. Ramos]

[Text] Isabela, Basilan, Feb. 4--The presence of more than 300 armed men, followers of different political factions of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan in this province, disrupted a consensus meeting Thursday in which Basilan KBL leaders were to select the lone candidate in the May 14 Batasan elections.

The consensus meeting was scheduled to be held at the Basilan provincial capitol in this town.

Isabela residents panicked and department stores and banks were forced to close for fear that bodyguards of several politicians, armed with automatic rifles, might engage in a shootout.

The town's PC troopers and policemen had earlier been placed on red alert when the KBL decided to hold a consensus meeting in the town.

Two jeeps mounted with .30 cal. machine guns were seen in the vicinity.

KBL sources said that among the armed men were bodyguards of ex-rebel Kaldi Tupay, incumbent assemblyman of Basilan.

Another group of armed men were said to be bodyguards of Al Kamlian, who is also aspiring for the lone slot.

Ulbert Ulama Ugong, chairman of the autonomous government's regional executive council, who is the strongest contender for the KBL slot, cancelled his trip to Basilan upon learning of the tense situation there.

In another incident, five soldiers were killed, one was seriously injured and another one was reported missing when Muslim rebels ambushed an army jeep in Basilan Friday.

The names of the victims were not mentioned in a sketchy report sent by Basilan police to the regional constabulary command here.

The report disclosed that the jeep was bearing soldiers of an artillery unit on their way to their camp in Sumisip when it was ambushed about 10 a.m.

PHILIPPINES

FORMER MNLF REBELS TOP KKK BENEFICIARY LIST

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Feb 84 p 28

[Article by Tony Pe. Rimando]

[Text]

COTABATO CITY — Moro National Liberation Front surrenderees constituted the biggest number of beneficiaries of the Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran program in 1983 in the autonomous region of central Mindanao, KKK regional action officer Celestino Desamito, Jr. said.

Desamito, in his year-end report to Human Settlements Minister Imelda R. Marcos through Region 12 Lupong Tagapagpaganap ng Pook Chairman Simeon A. Datumanong, said the rebel returnees who benefited from the KKK last year totalled 24,492 representing 27.76 per cent of the 86,320 total recipients.

The former MNLF members received a total fund release of ₱29,259,357.44 — ₱21,979,466.80 under the loan scheme and ₱7,279,890 under the puhanan plan — for

their livelihood projects.

The ex-dissidents' fund assistance represented 32.59 per cent of the total KKK fund releases in central Mindanao which amounted to ₱89,780,266.02.

Desamito said subsistence farmers came a close second in number with 24,342 and a total financial release of ₱20,944,042 for their livelihood projects.

Next are the members of cultural communities who numbered 14,496. They received a total aid of ₱13,941,924 with ₱9,119,775.54 under the loan plan and ₱4,822,149.25 under the puhanan scheme.

The other KKK beneficiary groups and their respective amounts of loans received are subsistence farmers, ₱8,784,865; kasingineros, ₱4,002,494; non-priority types, ₱1,129,904; low-income government em-

ployees, ₱442,693; out-of-school youth, ₱315,294; slum and urban dwellers, ₱276,780; and disabled persons, ₱12,103.

Desamito reported that through their KKK-financed livelihood projects, the beneficiaries have been able to improve their socio-economic life and ultimately made themselves more self-reliant and more useful members of their community.

CSO: 4200/506

PHILIPPINES

TULFO ON NPA ASSASSINS, REGION IX KBL 'DYNASTY'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Feb 84 p 28

[Article by Ramon Tulfo in the "Police News Roundup" column: "NPA Liquidations"]

[Text]

In Metro Manila, notorious criminals tremble at the mention of police or military "salvage" (execution) squads. But in Davao City, it's the reverse. The New People's Army's liquidation squad, the "sparrow unit," has been killing members of the police and military and getting away with the murders. Last year, more than 20 policemen and 120 military personnel were killed in the city. They were either gunned down while performing their job, on their way to work, or waiting for rides.

Most of the policemen-victims were traffic cops. Some of the military men killed were members of the Constabulary highway patrol group (CHPG). The vehicles used in the assassinations, according to our sources, were motorcycles with two men riding in tandem.

The killings have adversely affected the day-to-day activities of the police. No cops now want to direct traffic or patrol the streets alone.

Something should be done to stop the "salvaging" rampage of the NPAs in Davao City and return the faith of the local folk in law enforcement.

Some politicians in Region XI claim that the people's faith in the ruling party, the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), would be restored if the local political kingpin, Antonio Floirendo were deposed as KBL chairman. Region XI groups Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental, South Cotabato, Surigao del Sur, General Santos City and Davao City.

The politicians, who asked that their names be withheld, are themselves members of the KBL. They claim that Floirendo has put up a political dynasty in

the region. Floirendo, they say, is either closely related or related by affinity to top-ranking elected officials in Region XI.

For instance, Floirendo is the brother-in-law of Assemblyman Rodolfo del Rosario. Assemblyman Manuel Garcia, in turn, is Del Rosario's brother-in-law. George Royeca is Floirendo's second degree cousin. A potential KBL bet for Region XI, Leopoldo Ngo Lopez, is the brother-in-law of Garcia.

Floirendo, who owns 12,000 hectares of land, mostly planted to bananas, in Region XI, is reportedly very unpopular among the local folk. Perhaps because of this, he never rides cars in going to his haciendas; he takes helicopters.

"Remove Floirendo and you remove one of the sources of trouble in the region," says one of the politicians.

CSO: 4200/506

PHILIPPINES

U.S. BANK GRANTS \$95 MILLION CREDIT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 7 Feb 84 p 8

[Text] The US Export-Import Bank has granted the Philippines \$95-million credit to finance the importation of critical raw materials and spare parts.

Trade and Industry Minister Roberto V. Ongpin said the facility is being extended by the US Eximbank through the First National Bank of Chicago, the Crocker National Bank and its subsidiary, the Pacific Overseas Finance Corp.

The credit facility, which has a repayment period of 180 days, will be used to finance the importation of American goods through the state-owned Philippine International Trading Corp. (PITC).

Ongpin said that companies that would like to avail themselves the US Eximbank credit facility should submit their purchase orders to PITC.

Domestic industries qualified for the Eximbank financing are producers of tires, cement, chemicals, textiles, pulp and paper, soap and detergents, pharmaceuticals, among others.

Small, medium and cottage industries, especially those that are export-oriented, are also qualified to avail themselves of the credit, Ongpin said.

He said the availability of the \$95-million credit facility will relieve the country of any temporary shortages currently being experienced by some industries.

Ongpin disclosed that he is arranging for more assistance from the US bank and he is "optimistic the additional funding will be approved soon."

CSO: 4200/507

EXPATRIATES TAX COLLECTIONS UP

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Feb 84 p 28

[Text]

WASHINGTON D.C. (PNA)—Income taxes paid by Filipinos in the United States rose by almost 15 per cent in 1983, indicating an increasing awareness of their civic duties to the home country.

Collections by internal revenue offices around the country last year totalled \$1,274,846.10 up by 14.74 per cent over 1982's figure of \$1,111,071.10, according to Delfin Castro, BIR supervising attache based in Washington.

By states, the biggest

increment in last year's collections was posted by Hawaii which registered an increase of 50 per cent from 1982's \$118,841.38 to \$178,881.66 last year. The dramatic rise in the collections was attributed to the efforts of revenue attache Felipe Roque.

The second biggest increase was posted by the Houston/New Orleans office headed by Jose Riferente Jr. Last year's collections reached \$364,570.80, up 42 per cent over the previous year's total of \$255,308.41.

The other BIR reporting posts and their 1983 collections: Washington D.C. (Delfin Castro) \$181,275.80, higher by 23 per cent over 1982's \$147,432.65;

Seattle (Roman Lawson) \$39,206.63, up 12.26 per cent over the previous year's total of \$34,924.01;

San Francisco (Chona Galvez) \$103,244.36, an increase of 11.93 per cent over 1982's \$92,238.13;

Los Angeles (Candido Vergel De Dios) \$177,444.80, up 9.71 per cent over 1982's \$160,061.69.

C50: 4200/506

DEFENSE MINISTRY PROBES DAVAO 'SALVAGE' CASES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by J. De Vera and V. Foz]

[Text]

The Ministry of National Defense's investigation of two "salvaging" incidents and military abuses in Davao del Sur started yesterday with Brig. Gen. Dionisio Tan-Gatue Jr. reporting that the seven victims were killed while either trying to escape or during an encounter with dissident groups.

Tan-Gatue's report submitted to Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, PC chief and concurrently Integrated National Police (INP) director general, was turned over to the special human rights committee which was ordered by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile to investigate the incidents.

The investigation was ordered at the instance of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), which commended Enrile for his prompt action on the

IBP complaint of "salvaging" and other military abuses in Davao del Sur.

The IBP also sought the transfer of Col. Laudemar Kahulugan, provincial commander of Davao del Sur, pending the investigation.

The human rights committee, headed by Deputy Defense Minister Jose Crisol, formed a three-man sub-committee to conduct an on-the-spot investigation in Davao for the convenience of witnesses.

The sub-committee, headed by lawyer Diosdado Cervantes of the Defense Ministry, is flying to Davao del Sur tomorrow. The members are Col. Rodolfo Dimaano, chief of the investigation branch of the office of the Armed Forces inspector general, and Col. Aurelio Medina, deputy chief of the Constabulary In-

vestigation Service (CIS) at Camp Crame.

Crisol directed the sub-committee to submit its initial findings not later than Feb. 21.

Yesterday's meeting was attended by Crisol; Ramos; Brig. Gen. Samuel Soriano, defense assistant secretary for legal affairs; Brig. Gen. Renato Ecarma, Armed Forces inspector general; Col. Hermogenes Peralta, Jr., CIS chief; Col. Carlos Tanega, representing the Armed Forces chief of staff; Col. Eduardo Ermita and Cervantes, both of the Defense Ministry.

Tan-Gatue, PC-INP commander of Region XI, reported that in the first case, the four alleged "salvaging" victims were members

of the New People's Army (NPA) "sparrow unit" operating in the area.

They were identified as Celso Maghanoy, NPA regional unit commander; Trifonio Andreas, Clemente Espina, and Geracleo Paquero.

All four, according to Tan-Gatue, were facing murder, multiple murder and robbery-in-band charges before the municipal court of Bansalan, Davao del Sur.

Tan-Gatue said the four were arrested last Aug. 17 in Libungan, North Cotabato. During their investigation, the four reportedly revealed the hiding places of NPA units in barangay Colorado.

With the four NPA captives as guides, a military operation was launched, Tan-Gatue said. And in the ensuing encounter the four were killed, while several members of the NPA band as well as government troopers were wounded.

In the second case, Tan-Gatue said the three victims--Rodolfo Juabinga, Robertson Ignacio, and Emmanuel--were all members of the NPA who were arrested in Digos, immediately after the killing of police Lt. Roberto Merca and Conrado Olarte, a member of the civilian home defense, last Nov. 13.

Tan-Gatue said the three also revealed the hideout of their companions and volunteered to act as guides to the place.

Upon reaching the area, however, one of the men allegedly grabbed the fire-arm of a PC soldier and the three attempted to escape but were gunned down after trading shots with the troopers.

In a formal resolution, the IBP board of governors headed by IBP President Raul S. Roco, also asked that it be informed of its role in the ministry inquiry so it may do its job well.

IBP Eastern Mindanao Gov. Cesar S. Europa assured the IBP board that it is prepared to submit evidence and witnesses during the investigation.

The IBP chapter in Davao del Sur headed by Europa had reported that four men among those arrested and detained by military authorities during a wedding ceremony, were killed.

Two days later, the provincial commander announced that the four men whom he identified as NPAs, were killed in an encounter with PC soldiers and policemen.

In another case, Europa said parents and relatives of three "salvage" victims reported that they were buried in a common grave in the Digos public cemetery.

The military version was that they were killed while allegedly trying to escape.

CSO: 4200/506

INTERNAL REVENUE REORGANIZATION SET

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 11

[Text]

A functional reorganization is expected to be carried out shortly at the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The revamp could lead to the restoration of the two posts of assistant commissioners, informed sources said over the weekend.

The revamp, which could include the abolition of regional or field specific tax divisions, would be announced hand in hand with the changes and promotions involving dozens of revenue district officers and group supervisors, the same sources said.

The program will be implemented in time for the 1984 tax campaign aimed at raising P24 billion for the government.

Revenue Commissioner Ruben B Ancheta has designated Tomas C Toledo chairman of the tax drive.

The positions of two assistant commissioners were abolished by

then BIR Commissioner Efren Plana, now justice of the Supreme Court, in 1980.

The first assistant commissioner used to oversee operations. The other one handled administrative work.

Ancheta has no assistant commissioners, but has two deputies, Toledo and Romulo M. Villa, whose supervisory functions in certain areas are said to be overlapping.

Toledo directly oversees the BIR's 17 regions, while Villa is in charge of sector operations at the national office.

There are, however, offices where both are co-responsible. Under the plan, there would be only one deputy commissioner with the two proposed assistant commissioners immediately under him.

Several names have been mentioned for the position of assistant commissioners.

CSO: 4200/506

PHILIPPINES

COMMODITY LOAN FROM JAPAN ASSURED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 12

[Text]

The Philippines is certain of getting a \$240-million commodity loan from the Japanese government irrespective of the outcome of the current government negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a stand-by credit facility.

Officials of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) expressed confidence over the weekend that the Japanese assistance will be forthcoming shortly to finance raw material requirements of the beleaguered local industries.

Koiji Yoshitsugu, JETRO director, said the additional financing could come as early as within the month owing to confidence of the Japanese government on the ability of the present leadership to handle current economic and political developments.

Yoshitsugu came to the country two months ago primarily to assess the political and economic situation in the country.

The commodity loan being sought by the Philippine government is actually a conversion of the 12th Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) fund designed to finance a number of development projects.

With the conversion of the loan, Philippine projects supposedly to be financed by the OECF facility will have to be shelved to give priority to the country's pressing foreign exchange problem.

The scheme is similar to what the World Bank did in converting the \$130-million textile modernization loan into a raw material financing facility.

Yoshitsugu said that at first, Japanese perception of Philippine conditions is unfavorable in view of reports filtering into the Japanese media.

He said there has been a marked change in the attitude of the Japanese government since it was realized that economic problems in the country primarily stemmed from an acute foreign exchange supply.

CSO: 4200/506

SOLON: FOREIGN PRIESTS FOMENTING TROUBLE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 11

[Text]

Assemblyman Jose Sison of South Cotabato has accused some foreign Catholic priests in his province of fomenting trouble in the newly created town of Lake Sebu.

Sison said that the priests were interfering in purely local government affairs, particularly in the field of politics.

The Cotabato solon was reacting to charges that the crea-

tion of the new town was made without consultation with the people of the towns of Surallah and Tboli from which the new town was created.

The truth is that a referendum was held and the people of both towns voted overwhelmingly in favor of the creation of the new town, Sison said.

On the charge that the creation of the new town split the town of Tboli, Sison said this was not true because only 30,000 hectares out of the original 110,000 hectares comprising Tboli were given to Lake Sebu.

Tboli remains to be one of the biggest towns of South Cotabato in land area, he said.

In fact, there were more barangays from Surallah given to the new town, he added.

Sison stressed that all the legal requirements were met prior to the creation of the new town and that both the Christians and the minority tribes were equally represented in the choice of municipal officials.

CSO: 4200/506

PHILIPPINES

VIRATA CALLS FOR LOWER TARIFFS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 7 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Cesar E.A. Virata batted yesterday for lower tariff duties to make Philippine products available at cheaper prices and competitive in the world market.

Speaking at the 82nd foundation anniversary of the Bureau of Customs, Virata said: "There's no industrial state in the world which have high tariff rates. And we are adopting this scheme."

He reiterated a five-year plan of the government to peg the highest tariff on luxury items at 50 percent and collect minimal duties and taxes on essential items. The program is now on its third year.

Virata said lower tariff rates would make local manufacturers produce cheaper but good products to compete in the world market.

Virata cited changes in the export pattern. He said that 85 percent of the traditional exports were coconuts, sugar, mineral and other raw materials. Now, he said non-traditional exports such as cottage industries and KKK products, semi-conductors, cement, garment, and other products have entered the export picture.

He cited the bureau for overshooting its collection targets for the last three years. Virata said that of the P45-billion budget last year, P17.2-billion was earned by the customs bureau. He said he was optimistic that the P18-billion goal for this year would be met.

CSO: 4200/507

TWELVE KILLED IN REGION IX NPA ATTACKS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 28

[Article by Vic Arevalo]

[Text]

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Rebels killed 12 persons and destroyed about P1 million worth of government road equipment in six separate incidents during the last five days in Region IX, according to military reports.

Killed were five Army soldiers, three barangay officials, three community leaders, and one fisherman.

A church minister was also wounded.

The reports said New People's Army (NPA) men sieged barangays Parasan and Disulun in Molave, Zamboanga del Sur, for six hours last Wednesday. Held hostage were two barangay captains and several residents.

A Constabulary report from Zamboanga del Sur received by Brig. Edgardo A. Alfabeto, regional commander, said the NPAs, headed by Enrique Kong,

swooped down on the two barangays and burned one bulldozer, one dump truck, and a service jeep.

The NPAs waited for officials from Molave town whom they intended to kidnap as they were scheduled to inaugurate last Wednesday morning the newly completed Disulun-Tarasan road.

The hostages were released later as the armed group fled toward Mahayag town.

Killed in their houses were barangay captain Nemecio Moreno and councilman Jose Jubillo.

both of Anosa, Molave; barangay captain Exequiel Yanoyan of Bataaw, Dumalinao; Telestoro Jampero, Jeremias Abag, both of Caboron, Tambulig; and Eliotero Martel, of Bulacan, Labangan.

A fisherman, Roseller Laraga, was shot dead in Maligay bay, Pitogo, last Tuesday night by suspected Muslim rebels, the PC report said.

Ruben Tabiton, church minister of the

Seventh Day Adventist, was shot and wounded by an unidentified gunman at poblacion Malangas last Wednesday. He was taken in serious condition to St. John hospital in Buug.

In the Basilan ambush, five artillery unit soldiers of the 1st infantry brigade of the Tahak division were killed by suspected Muslim rebels in sitio Saguin, Sumisip, Basilan, at 10 a.m. Friday.

CSO: 4200/507

5,000 ATTEND RALLY AGAINST SUGAR MONOPOLY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 28

[Text]

BACOLOD CITY — More than 5,000 people, mostly sugar plantation owners and their workers, rallied Saturday to protest government monopoly of the Philippine sugar industry.

As speakers at a city park deplored the state of one of the country's key export industries, protesters waved placards denouncing the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucor) and the National Sugar Trading Corp. (Nasutra).

"Give us the chance to survive. Return the sugar to us," read one sign, appealing for a return of sugar marketing to free enterprise. The sugar agencies were formed when President Marcos ruled by martial law, which was lifted in 1981.

Glicero Javellana, a sugar planter, accused the government agencies of cheating sugar planters of P8 billion over the past five years.

"For about four to five years, I have been complaining about shortchanging by Philsucor-Nasutra but nothing has been done and no answers have been made," said Javellana.

Javellana is defendant in a \$2-million libel suit filed last month by Roberto S. Benedicto, who oversees the sugar industry and is a close Marcos associate.

Benedicto, who owns three Manila television stations, a newspaper and other businesses, denied Javellana's accusations of illegal or immoral acts on the part of the sugar agencies.

One speaker estimated 5.8 million Filipinos, more than 10 per cent of the population, depend on sugar for a living. (AP)

CSO: 4200/507

PHILIPPINES

BANK EMPLOYEES BACK BOYCOTT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 28

[Text]

Employes of banks and other financial institutions have closed ranks and immersed themselves into the movement to boycott the coming Batasang Pambansa elections.

The newly formed Financial Intermediaries Society against Tyranny (FIST) bared their boycott stand in a resolution passed during its convention last Saturday at the St. Joseph's

College in Quezon City.

J. Virgilio Bautista of the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom, and Democracy, convention speaker, explained the validity of an active and militant boycott position in the light of the present economic and political crisis in the country.

He stressed the continuation of the struggle for democratic rights even after the May elec-

toral process.

The convention bannered the theme "Get Organized: Fight for Justice, Genuine Freedom, and Democracy."

Unions and other organizations from 21 banks and other financial institutions are affiliated with FIST, formerly the bank employes-labor sector of the Justice for Aquino, Justice for All (JAJA) movement.

CSO: 4200/507

PHILIPPINES

SUSPECTED MNLF MARIJUANA FIELD RAIDED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Feb 84 p 28

[Article by Vic Arevalo]

[Text]

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Hundreds of fully grown marijuana plants weighing more than 100 kilos and worth P300,000 were uprooted when government men raided last Saturday a suspected rebel guarded plantation in barangay Kaloo, Maimbong, Sulu.

A Constabulary report received yesterday by Brig. Gen. Edgardo Alfabeto, regional commander from Col. Pedro Navarro, Sulu commander, said the plantation was located in Maimbong and cultivated by suspected rebels of the Moro National Liberation Front.

He said an ex-PC sergeant turned renegade identified as Jundail Jawaddain was plantation overseer.

A group of armed men guarding the plantation fled after a 30-minute exchange of fire with raiding team composed of PC soldiers, policemen, and civilian home defense force members.

The team was led by PC Sgt. Juanito Arboleda, Cpl. Abdul Samad police commander of Maimbong INP, and Ajada Abdu.

CSO: 4200/507

PHILIPPINES

IMPORTED WHEAT ARRIVES, MORE TO COME

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Feb 84 p 28

[Text]

There are now actually plenty of wheat grains in the silos of the country's flour millers.

Col. Generoso F. Tanseco, president of the Philippine National Liñes (PNL), said that five Philippine and foreign vessels have either finished or are still discharging 131,705.193 long tons of wheat grains in all Philippine ports where there are flour millers.

Tanseco was allaying fears of a wheat shortage in the country, particularly because there were reports circulated that the common man's breakfast fare of *pan-de-sal* is beginning to get smaller again.

"In addition to the five vessels now discharging wheat," according to Medardo

"Sonny" M. Melicor, PNL vice president for operations, "the M/V President Roxas and the M/V President Magsaysay have been chartered to load wheat at Portland in Western United States for delivery to the country."

A check with Coast Guard and the Philippine Ports Authority showed that Manila (where Liberty, Republic, Universal-Robina, and Wellington flour mills are located) is discharging aboard M/V Ginger, 25,442.828 long tons (being discharged); M/V Zorina, 24,296.787 long tons (being discharged); and M/V Cameron, 11,418.799 LT (finished); total: 61,158.414 long tons.

CSO: 4200/506

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

SUSPENSION OF CREDIT CAUSES MEDICINE SHORTAGE--Drugs, especially those for surgery, are getting scarce, and stocks may not last until March, the Philippine Medical Association said yesterday. Topping the list are anesthetics and those used for diabetics and heart ailments. Dr. Vicente J. Rosales, PMA president, described the situation as "acute." Rosales said the shortage was caused by suspension of letters of credit for drug importers, with the situation worsening because patients started hoarding drugs in anticipation of the shortage and price increases. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Feb 84 p 6]

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